

**NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**
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Test	Influenza PCR
Test Description	The CDC Real-time reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) for the detection of the following targets: Influenza type A, Influenza type B, Influenza A seasonal subtype H3 (A/H3), Influenza subtype AH1pdm09 (pdmA and pdmH1), Influenza A subtype H5 (A/H5) Asian lineage and Influenza B lineage genotypes; B/Victoria, B/Yamagata.
Acceptable specimens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nasal swabs, throat swabs dual nasopharyngeal/throat swabs collected with a Dacron-tipped swab (with an aluminum or plastic shaft) and placed in 2–3 mL of viral transport medium. Combining both swabs into a single transport media tube is also acceptable. Other respiratory specimens including , nasal aspirates, nasal washes, tracheal aspirates, sputum, nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal aspirates or washes at a volume of 0.5 mL to 1.0 mL added into 2 mL of viral transport medium and lung tissue. For avian influenza A(H5N1): conjunctival specimen(s) from patient experiencing conjunctivitis, collected with Dacron-tipped swab (with an aluminum or plastic shaft) and placed in 2–3 mL of viral transport medium or universal transport medium. If both eyes are affected, each eye should be swabbed with a separate swab. Both swabs are placed in a single transport media tube. Conjunctival swabs MUST be paired with oropharyngeal and anterior nares swab specimens or a nasopharyngeal swab specimen, even if the patient does not have respiratory symptoms. <p>Note: Dry swabs, swabs with calcium alginate tips, or swabs with wooden shafts are unacceptable for collecting specimens.</p>
Timing of specimen collection	Specimens should be collected no later than 7 days after symptom onset.
Specimen storage	Specimens should be kept refrigerated at 2–8 °C for up to 72 hours after collection, and frozen thereafter (repeated freezing and thawing is not acceptable).

Specimen shipping	Specimens should be shipped refrigerated (2–8 °C) if the shipment is to be received within 72 hours of collection; specimens should be shipped on dry ice if shipment is to be received >72 hours after collection.
CPT code	87501
Test fee	Refer to the posted fee schedule
Result availability (turnaround time)	Influenza typing results are typically reported to the submitter within 2-3 business days after specimen receipt. If the submitter has already identified the specimen as positive for Influenza A or Influenza B, subtyping results are typically reported to the submitter within 1 week of specimen receipt.