SUNRISE MEDICAL LABORATORIES
A Sonic Healthcare Company

Client Communication

March 19, 2020

Sunrise Medical Laboratories is pleased to announce that testing for SARS-Cov-2/COVID-19 is available effective immediately.
Due to strong market demand and limited supply nationwide, priorities will be given to high risk patients in accordance to CDC guidelines and endemic regions and clusters.

Test Information:

Test Code: 26500 (New York - Hicksville) | U683 (Mid-Atlantic - Chantilly)

Test Name: SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) BY RT-PCR, HIGH RISK

Ordering Recommendations:

Ordering provider to determine patient risk level based on CDC Guidelines and clinical judgement.

- Sonic has created an orderable code to triage patients, prioritize testing and coordinate with public health authorities:
  - **SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) - High Risk:** Patients who are symptomatic, exhibiting respiratory illness (cough, fever, and dyspnea), have been in close contact with a known COVID-19 patient or are otherwise considered High Risk exposure from an epidemiological perspective.
- Criteria to Guide Evaluation of PUI (Persons Under Investigation) for COVID-19: The CDC currently states Clinicians should use their judgment to determine if a patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and whether the patient should be tested. Decisions on which patients receive testing should be based on the local epidemiology of COVID-19, as well as the clinical course of illness.
- Clinicians are strongly encouraged to test for other causes of respiratory illness, including infections such as influenza.
- In accordance with public health guidance, clinicians should prioritize testing to following groups.
  1. Hospitalized patients who have signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 in order to inform decisions related to infection control.
  2. Other symptomatic individuals, such as older adults and individuals with chronic medical conditions and/or an immunocompromised state that may put them at higher risk for poor outcomes (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, receiving immunosuppressive medications, chronic lung disease, chronic kidney disease).

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3. Any person, including healthcare personnel, who within 14 days of symptom onset had close contact with a suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient, or who had a history of travel from affected geographic areas.

Specimen Requirements:

Sample Type:

- Upper Respiratory Tract: Nasopharyngeal Swab

Container Type: **Prefer dedicated collection device*

- Nasopharyngeal swab: Viral or Universal Transport Media - M4, M4RT, M6, UTM, VTM, or eSwab (plastic shaft with white cap) with Swab.

Handling Instructions:

Nasopharyngeal Swab:
Insert a swab into the nostril parallel to the palate. Leave the swab in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions. Place swab immediately into sterile tube containing **2 - 3 mL of viral transport media.**

Transport: Critical Refrigerated

Unsuitable Specimens: Ambient specimens. Swabs not in viral transport media. Calcium alginate swabs. Swabs with wooden shafts. Any device refrigerated more than 72 hours post collection.

Testing Capacity:

- Testing is performed seven days a week.
- Expected TAT is 2-3 days.
  - TAT may vary with changes in capacity and market demands.

CPT Codes:

- **HCPCS U0002** 2019-ncov coronavirus, sars-cov-2/2019-ncov (covid-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC
- **CPT 87635** Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique

LOINC Codes: SARS-CoV-2 Interpretation (94306-8), Naso and Oro SARS-CoV-2 (94316-7), Nasopharyngeal SARS-CoV-2 (94316-7)