

**Reporting Title:** SARS Coronavirus 2 RNA, PCR, V  
**Performing Location:** Phoenix

**Ordering Guidance:**  
Due to the non-specific clinical presentation of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) during the early stages of illness, testing for other respiratory tract infections (eg, influenza) may be warranted.

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 epidemiology and testing recommendations, visit  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**Shipping Instructions:**  
Ship specimens refrigerated (if less than 72 hours from collection to arrive at MCL) or frozen (if 72 hours or more from collection to arrive at MCL).

**Specimen Requirements:**  
**Specimen Type:** Nasopharyngeal (NP), oropharyngeal (OP; ie, throat).  
**Supplies:** Swab, Sterile Polyester (T507)  
**Container/Tube:** Universal transport media, viral transport media, or equivalent (eg, Copan UTM-RT, BD VTM, MicroTest M4, M4-RT, M5)  
**Media should not contain guanidine thiocyanate (GTC).**  
For more information on acceptable transport media, see  
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/faqs-diagnostic-testing-sars-cov-2>  
**Specimen Volume:** Entire specimen with a minimum of 1.5 mL (maximum 3 mL) of transport media.

- Collection Instructions:**
1. Collect specimen by swabbing back and forth over nasal or pharyngeal mucosa surface to maximize recovery of cells. For more information on OP swab specimen collection, see [COVID-19 Oropharyngeal Collection Instructions](#) in Special Instructions.
  2. NP and OP swab specimens may be combined at collection into a single vial of transport media but only one swab is required for analysis.
  3. Swab must be placed into transport medium. Swab shaft should be broken or cut so that there is no obstruction to the sample or pressure on the media container cap.
  4. Do **not** send in glass tubes, vacutainer tubes, or tubes with push caps.
  5. Do **not overfill** with more than 3 mL total volume of media.

**Specimen Type:** Lower respiratory tract  
**Sources:** Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid, bronchial washings, endotracheal aspirate, sputum  
**Container/Tube:** Sterile container  
**Specimen Volume:** Minimum of 2.2 mL  
**Additional Information:** Do not aliquot into viral transport media glass tubes, vacutainer tubes, or tubes with push caps.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Frozen (preferred)	14 days	

	Refrigerated	72 hours	
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Ask at Order Entry (AOE) Questions:

Test ID	Question ID	Description	Type	Reportable
CVOOA	CVOAS	SARS-CoV-2 Spec. Source: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bronchoalveolar Lavage</li><li>Oropharynx, Nasopharynx</li><li>Nares</li><li>Nasal</li><li>Nasal mid-turbinate</li><li>Nasal Washing</li><li>Nasopharyngeal Aspirate</li></ul>	Answer List	Yes
CVOOA	CARAC	Patient Race: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>American Indian or Alaska Native</li><li>Asian, Black or African American</li><li>Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</li><li>White</li><li>Other Race</li><li>Refused to Answer</li><li>Unknown</li></ul>	Answer List	Yes
CVOOA	CAETH	Patient Ethnicity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hispanic or Latino</li><li>Not Hispanic or Latino</li><li>Not Obtainable</li><li>Refused</li><li>Asked but Unknown</li><li>Unknown</li></ul>	Answer List	Yes

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
CVOAS	SARS-CoV-2 Spec. Source	Alphanumeric		31208-2
610438	SARS-CoV-2 RNA	Alphanumeric		94500-6
610439	Method Summary	Alphanumeric		62364-5
CAETH	Patient Ethnicity	Alphanumeric		69490-1
CARAC	Patient Race	Alphanumeric		72826-1

LOINC® and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:  
87635

Reference Values:  
Undetected