



September 9, 2009

Dear Valued Client:

As Central Indiana prepares for the fall flu season, we want to provide information that outlines the test capabilities offered through Mid America Clinical Laboratories (MACL). The majority of questions pertain to Influenza A H1N1 (2009) and the availability to rule in or rule out this strain of Influenza A.

What testing is available to detect 2009 Novel Influenza A H1N1?

1) Respiratory Viral Panel (RVP) Test Code # 51314 CPT: 87798 x 12

RVP is an FDA-cleared, multi-plexed, PCR assay that can detect 12 viral targets with one nasopharyngeal swab collection. The assay will detect most major types of respiratory viruses and provides the clinician with a broad scope of the patient's clinical picture.

Viral Family	Viral Subtype
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	A
	B
Influenza A	Non-specific Influenza
	A
	H1
	H3
Influenza B	
Parainfluenza 1	
Parainfluenza 2	
Parainfluenza 3	
Metapneumovirus	
Rhinovirus	
Adenovirus	

The RVP assay can detect patients with probable H1N1, and this will be indicated on the laboratory report. The verbiage will read as follows:

“Specimens positive for Influenza A, with no H1 or H3 hemagglutinin gene targets detected, are indicative of 2009 Influenza A/H1N1 when using the Luminex xTAG RVP testing method.”

Specimen Collection: Nasopharyngeal swab collected with wire-shaft Dacron Polyester swab submitted in BD VCM medium (Green Cap), Red Cap BD Universal VTM specifically for virus collection, or M4/M4RT media.

Transport Temperature: If received in the laboratory within 24 hours of collection, transport at room temperature. If more than 24 hours post-collection, transport specimen frozen.

Turn Around Time: Reports in 24-48 hours

2) Influenza A H1N1 (2009) Real-Time RT-PCR Test Code # 16807 CPT: 87798 x2

This test uses PCR technology to target two separate regions of the hemagglutinin gene of the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus to differentiate the presence of the pandemic virus from seasonal human influenza A virus. The test is intended to act as an aid for clinicians to use in identifying patients infected with the pandemic virus, in consideration of symptoms, medical background and other factors.

This particular assay only tests for the Influenza A H1N1 (2009). It will not detect other types of respiratory viral infections.

Reporting for positive H1N1 patients will read as follows:

Influenza A RNA: Detected

2009 Influenza A H1 Gene: Detected

Specimen positive for 2009 H1N1 influenza viral RNA

Specimen Collection: Nasal swabs, nasopharyngeal swabs, throat swabs or nasal aspirates in viral transport media, VCM medium (green cap) or equivalent universal transport media or M4

Transport Temperature: Room Temperature

Turn Around Time: 2-3 Days

How do I obtain supplies for collection?

You may order online at our website, www.maclonline.com. "Order supplies" is an option under the Quick Links tab on the left hand side of the webpage. Enter your MACL client number and click continue. Type RVP SUPPLIES inside the comments line. The submit button is located at the bottom of the page. These supplies can be used for either test indicated above.

At this time, we are limiting the volume of testing supplies that can be ordered at one time. When you have utilized half of your supply, please place another order. Supplies should be delivered to your office within 24 hours.

Where can my patients go for collection?

The following MACL collection sites are available for collection of either test highlighted above.

Patients Will Be Hospital Registered – Lab Reports will be delivered by fax

St. Vincent 86th Street Hospital Outpatient Draw Area
St. Vincent Women’s Hospital

Patients Will Be Registered by MACL – Lab Reports will be delivered normally

St. Vincent Northeast – Fishers
St. Vincent Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital Draw Site
Heart Hospital Draw Site
Community Hospital North – Galleria Draw Site
Community Hospital East Draw Site
Community Hospital South Draw Site

Please note that all other MACL draw sites are NOT collecting specimens.

If you have any additional questions, please call our Customer Response Center at 877-803-1010 or contact your sales representative.

Regards,



Erica H. Daulton
Director, Sales

Testing Option Summary					
Test Code	Test Name	Methodology	CPT	Specimens	TAT
51314	Respiratory Viral Panel	Luminex [®] xTAG [™]	87798x12	Nasopharyngeal	24-36 hours
16807	Influenza A H1N1 (2009)	Real-time RT-PCR	87798x2	Nasal, nasopharyngeal, throat, nasal aspirate	2-3 days

* The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.