

**Update
Coronavirus/COVID19 Testing
March 8, 2020**

Dear Health Care Provider,

St Joseph Mercy Health System Laboratory will accept specimens for Covid-19 testing. The instructions below center on specimen collection and ordering. Each office should establish a safe process to identify and isolate patients suspected of Covid-19 infection. Exposure to the patient should be limited and appropriate protective wear should be used.

1. Contact local Department of Health to notify them of a suspected patient and to get approval for testing. Inform them that samples will be delivered to St Joseph Mercy Health System Laboratory in Ann Arbor for storage until approval for testing has been granted. The Department of Health will coordinate any paperwork requirements between the office and the laboratory.
2. Do not refer the patient to a phlebotomy draw site. Collect specimens to include 3 nasopharyngeal swabs placed in viral transport media (VTM) and 1 oropharyngeal swab placed into VTM. Label each VTM as either NP for nasopharyngeal or OP for oropharyngeal. Patient full first and last name and date of birth should be on all samples.
3. Place all specimens into a STAT bag and seal it.
4. It is likely that the Department of health will recommend a respiratory panel before approval of Covid-19 testing. Indicate on a printed requisition MISC TEST: "COVID 19 testing" and "RPN" for a respiratory panel if instructed by Department of Health to order a respiratory panel.
5. Call for Stat transport from St Joseph Mercy Health System.
6. If contacted by the Department of Health to pursue Covid-19 testing, instruct them to Fax required paper work to 734-712-8414 (laboratory processing area). Please inform your St Joseph Mercy Health System Laboratory client representative of the need for additional testing.

Covid-19 testing is a fluid situation, and we will provide updates as requirements change. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your SJMHS Technical Service Representative or the SJMHS Lab Office at 734-712-3141 and ask for a Client Service Representative.

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Health Department Contact Info by County:
Washtenaw 734-544-6700
Livingston 517-546-9850
Wayne 734-727-7100
Oakland 248-858-1280

Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Svcs:
Normal Business Hours: 517-335-8063
After-Hours: 517-335-9030