



Laboratory Update
Expanded Covid-19 Testing for
HOSPITAL INPATIENTS, ER, & HEALTHCARE
WORKERS
April 13, 2020

Dear Health Care Provider,

This communication is intended to share the latest information regarding new Covid-19 testing for **HOSPITAL INPATIENTS, ER, & HEALTHCARE WORKERS** performed at our Michigan Regional Healthcare Ministries (RHMs). Please read all information carefully as some changes have occurred since our March 25 update.

NEW

Michigan Regional Healthcare Ministries (RHMs): RHMs have now begun in-house screening for SARS-COV-2 on the Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 molecular platform. This test has a turnaround time of 30 to 60 minutes after receipt of the specimen, and will be performed daily. The test is limited to in-patients, ER, and employees. A dry swab from the nares or a swab placed into Viral Transport Media (VTM) from the nasopharynx can be used for testing. The Epic test code is **LAB7901** (COVSCRN) RAPID SARS-COV-2 SCREEN, MOLECULAR TEST.

Please note limitations of the test:

False negative results may occur because the RAPID SARS-COV-2 SCREEN, MOLECULAR test has a limited detection of low viral loads. Thus, a negative result does not rule out SARS-COV-2 infection. If there is a high clinical suspicion of a SARS-COV-2 infection, use the Epic "Add-test" order option to request the Warde SARS-COV-2 RNA, QUALITATIVE REAL-TIME RT-PCR TEST, if the rapid screening test was collected in viral media. If the rapid screening test was collected by a dry swab, recollect the patient for either repeat of the Abbott rapid screening test or the Warde diagnostic test

Warde Medical Laboratory (WML): WML will continue to perform Covid-19 testing at their facility. Expected turn-around time is 1 to 2 days and WML will perform testing 7 days per week. Collection requirements have been expanded to accept buffered saline should VTM be in short supply. The Warde test code in Epic is **LAB7887** (COVWD) SARS-COV-2 RNA, QUALITATIVE REAL-TIME RT-PCR.

Quest Diagnostics (QD) Lower Respiratory Samples from Inpatients: QD performs RNA, qualitative real-time RT-PCR on lower respiratory tract specimens such as sputum and BAL. To order, place a **miscellaneous** order in Epic with the request "COVID testing Lower Respiratory".

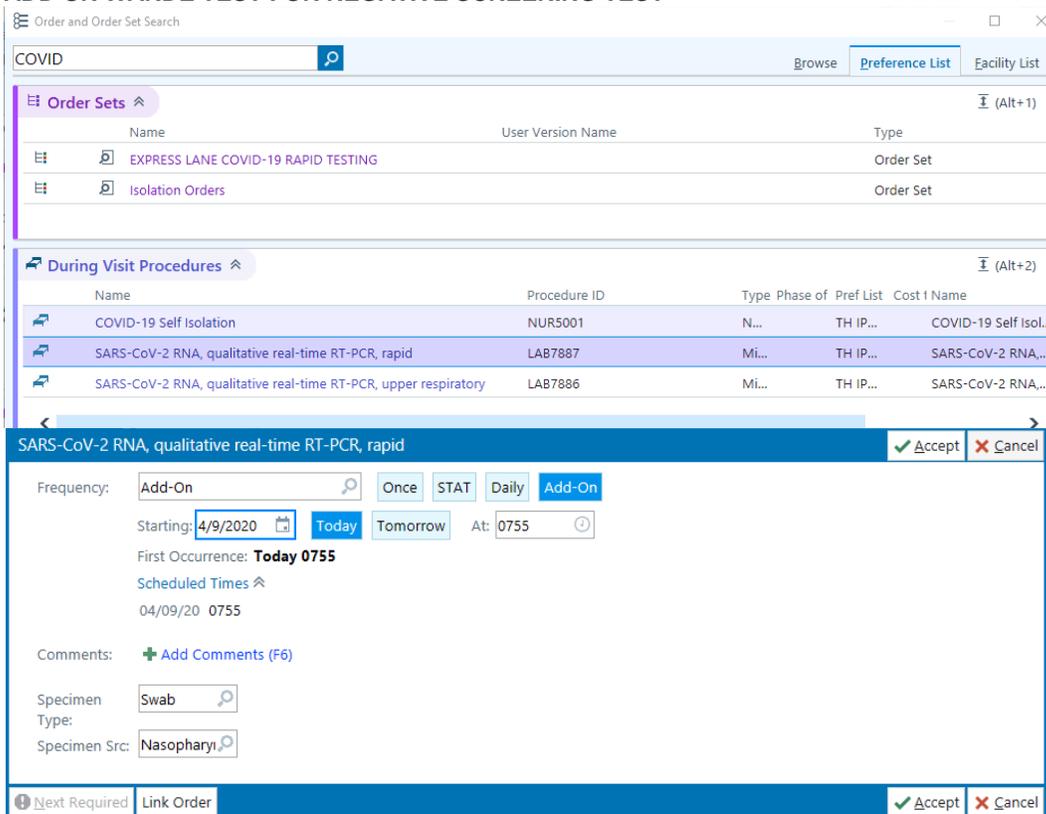
Test Comparison

	Abbott Rapid	Warde Medical Lab	Quest Lower Respiratory Tract
SpecimenType	Nasal or Nasopharyngeal	Nasal or Nasopharyngeal	BAL or Deep sputum
Collection media	Dry swab or VTM	VTM or saline	VTM or saline
TAT	30-60 minutes	1-2 days	2-3 days
Sensitivity	Good sensitivity	Very sensitive	Very sensitive
Use	Good screen, acute illness	Diagnostic, acute and convalescent	Diagnostic, long term hospitalized
False negative (FN)	Possible, consider Warde test	Possible, consider Quest test	Possible
Target population	Inpatients, ER, employees	Inpatient (FN), outpatients	Inpatient

- *Collection media:* While supplies last, VTM is the preferred method for the Abbott test and allows for convenient add-on testing to Warde to exclude false negatives. Dry swabs are acceptable, but collection of another specimen in VTM or saline will be required for add-on testing. Should VTM become depleted, we will provide notification to use dry swabs for the Abbott test and laboratory supplied saline kits for Warde Covid tests.

- **Kits:** Kits with transport media (VTM or saline) may come with both an Oropharyngeal swab (OP) and a nasopharyngeal swab (NP). Submit only the NP swab. An OP is no longer required, and placing both swabs into VTM may reduce the amount of VTM and desiccate the specimen. Snap or cut off the swab at the breakpoint so that less than 3 inches of swab remain in the tube. The swab should not be in contact with the cap. **Failure to properly tighten the cap could necessitate a re-collect of the specimen.**
- **Specimen transport:** Place VTM tubes and any respiratory specimen in a securely sealed bag, and then enclosed within a second specimen bag. Send by tube system or walking specimen to the lab.
- **Results:** Results will be reported as a critical through the usual reporting mechanism.
- **Disclaimer:** Since the test has been approved by the FDA as a EUA, the attached Patient Fact Sheet MUST be shared with the patient. A Healthcare Provider Fact Sheet is also attached.

ADD ON WARDE TEST FOR NEGATIVE SCREENING TEST



The screenshot shows a software window titled "Order and Order Set Search" with a search bar containing "COVID". Below the search bar are tabs for "Browse", "Preference List", and "Facility List".

Under "Order Sets", there is a table with columns: Name, User Version Name, and Type. The rows are:

Name	User Version Name	Type
EXPRESS LANE COVID-19 RAPID TESTING		Order Set
Isolation Orders		Order Set

Under "During Visit Procedures", there is a table with columns: Name, Procedure ID, Type, Phase of, Pref List, and Cost 1 Name. The rows are:

Name	Procedure ID	Type	Phase of	Pref List	Cost 1 Name
COVID-19 Self Isolation	NUR5001	N...	TH	IP...	COVID-19 Self Isol...
SARS-CoV-2 RNA, qualitative real-time RT-PCR, rapid	LAB7887	Mi...	TH	IP...	SARS-CoV-2 RNA,...
SARS-CoV-2 RNA, qualitative real-time RT-PCR, upper respiratory	LAB7886	Mi...	TH	IP...	SARS-CoV-2 RNA,...

The "SARS-CoV-2 RNA, qualitative real-time RT-PCR, rapid" procedure is selected, and a configuration window is open. It shows:

- Frequency: Add-On (selected), Once, STAT, Daily, Add-On
- Starting: 4/9/2020 (calendar icon), Today, Tomorrow, At: 0755 (clock icon)
- First Occurrence: **Today 0755**
- Scheduled Times: 04/09/20 0755
- Comments: + Add Comments (F6)
- Specimen: Swab (dropdown)
- Type: (dropdown)
- Specimen Src: Nasopharynx (dropdown)

Buttons at the bottom include "Next Required", "Link Order", "Accept", and "Cancel".

Our goal is to bring a rapid Covid-19 **diagnostic** test in-house to compliment this new Abbott rapid screening test. The target date is late April or early May. We will continue to provide updates as they develop.

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