

Notification Date: October 8, 2024 Effective Date: November 12, 2024

# Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS CoV-2), Influenza Virus Type A and Type B RNA, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies

Test ID: SCOF4

# Useful for:

Simultaneous detection and differentiation of SARS-CoV-2 (cause of COVID-19), influenza A virus, influenza B virus, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in upper or lower respiratory tract specimens from individuals with a flu-like illness

## **Methods:**

Multiplex Reverse Transcriptase, Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-qPCR)

## **Reference Values:**

Undetected

#### **Specimen Requirements:**

Preferred:

Additional Information:	Do not aliquot into viral transport media.	
Specimen Volume:	0.6 mL	
Container/Tube:	Sterile Container	
Specimen Type:	Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	
	2. Swab must be placed into viral transport media (eg, M4-RT, M4 or M5), saline, or phosphate buffered saline (PBS). <b>Media should not contain guanidine thiocyanate (GTC).</b>	
Collection Instructions:	<ol> <li>Collect specimen by swabbing back and forth over mucosa surface to maximize recovery of cells.</li> </ol>	
Specimen Volume:	Entire specimen with a minimum of 1.5 mL (maximum 3 mL) of transport media.	
Container/Tube:	Sterile container with transport media	
Specimen Type:	Nasopharyngeal swab	

#### Acceptable:

Specimen Type:	Oropharyngeal (throat) swab, nasal mid-turbinate, or nares/nasal swab	
Supplies:	-Culturette (BBL Culture Swab) (T092)	
	- Mid Turbinate (MT) Swab (FLOQSwab/COPAN) (T864)	
	-Swab, Sterile Polyester (T507)	
Container/Tube:	Sterile container with transport media	
Specimen Volume:	Entire specimen with a minimum of 1.5 mL (maximum 3 mL) of transport media.	
Preferred:	BBL Culture Swab, COPAN Mid-turbinate Swab	
Acceptable:	Dacron-tipped swab with plastic handle	
Collection Instructions:	Swab must be placed into viral transport media (eg, M4-RT, M4, or M5), saline, c PBS. <b>Media should not contain guanidine thiocyanate (GTC).</b>	
Specimen Type:	Bronchial washings, endotracheal aspirate, sputum	
Container/Tube:	Sterile container	
Specimen Volume:	0.6 mL	
Additional Information:	Do not aliquot into viral transport media.	

Minimum Volume: Upper respiratory tract swab: See Specimen Required; lower respiratory specimens: 0.3 mL

#### **Specimen Stability Information:**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Varies	Frozen (preferred)	14 days
	Refrigerated	72 hours

# **Cautions:**

The sensitivity of the assay is dependent on the quality of the specimen submitted. A nasopharyngeal swab and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid are the preferred specimen types for optimal detection of SARS-CoV-2, influenza A/B, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) RNA in the upper and lower respiratory tracts, respectively.

The test is specific for detection and differentiation of SARS-CoV-2, influenza A virus, influenza B virus, and RSV, but positive results do not exclude the possibility of infection with other respiratory viruses. This assay detects influenza A viral RNA but does not distinguish among the different viral subtypes, such as H5N1, H7N9. Influenza C virus is not detected by this assay.

Undetected (negative) results do not preclude infection with SARS-CoV-2, influenza A virus, influenza B virus, or RSV and should not be used as the sole basis for treatment or other patient management decisions.

# Questions

Contact James Conn, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.