

Note: Throat swabs are the least preferred as they are a suboptimal specimen type, and should only be used if the patient cannot tolerate a nasopharyngeal swab. Throat swabs must be collected with the "blue-top" Copan Universal Transport Medium kit.

October to April (during Flu season): Influenza A & B/RSV and COVID-19 PCR testing will be done at an IH site for all specimens. "Magpix" testing is available for inpatients (on request) and will be performed automatically on patients <5 years old who are negative for COVID-19, Influenza A/B & RSV. Legionella testing is part of the IH "Magpix" panel during Flu season, but must be requested separately by phoning the lab.

Please note: Patients assessed in the emergency department and discharged home will not be eligible for Magpix testing.

May to October (outside of Flu Season): Specimens will be tested for Covid-19. Influenza and RSV testing is not available. "Magpix" testing is still available for inpatients (on request) and will be performed automatically on patients <5 years old. Legionella testing must be requested separately as this is <u>not</u> part of the IH "Magpix" panel outside of Flu Season.