

Respiratory Test Ordering – Job Aid

1. ROUTINE RESPIRATORY PANEL (RRP)
Including COVID-19, Influenza A/B and RSV#

Used for majority of patient orders with results available within 24 hours

SAMPLE TYPE	CONTAINER	ORDER
NP swab	 Copan Viral UTM Red top	Routine Resp Panel/RRP Nasoph

2. EXTENDED RESPIRATORY PANEL (ERP)
Including COVID-19, Influenza A/B and RSV and extended pathogens#^

Restricted test with results available within 72 hours

USE ONLY IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS WHERE IT WILL CHANGE CLINICAL MANAGEMENT

STRONG SUSPICION OF *CHLAMYDIA*/ *MYCOPLASMA** INFECTION

PEDIATRICS (<17 years)

- Admitted patients
- Outpatients who are medically complicated where results change management

ADULTS (≥17 years) who meet the following criteria:

- Immunocompromised patients
- Patients requiring Critical Care
- Diagnostic uncertainty where results will change management

Adult outpatients are NOT eligible for testing without Medical Microbiologist approval.

SAMPLE TYPE	CONTAINER	ORDER
NP swab Preferred for viral testing	 Copan Viral UTM Red top	Extended Resp Panel/ERP Nasoph
Throat swab preferred if high suspicion for Mycoplasma	 Copan Viral UTM Blue top	Extended Resp Panel/ERP Throat

3. PERTUSSIS TESTING

Sent to BCCDC with results typically available within 3 business days of collection

SAMPLE TYPE	CONTAINER	PEDIATRIC ORDER (<17 years)	ADULT ORDER (≥17 years)
NP swab	 Copan eSwab green top	Pertussis (Whooping Cough) PCR	

Footnotes:

For throat, sputum, endotracheal aspirate, bronchoscopy, or nasopharyngeal swab ordering, see Microbiology Laboratory Test Menu at <https://www.interiorhealth.ca/sites/default/files/PDFS/microbiology-guide-to-specimen-ordering-collection-and-transport-information.pdf>

^Extended respiratory panel includes:

- Viral targets: Adenovirus, Coronaviruses (non-COVID-19), Influenza A/B, Metapneumovirus, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Rhinovirus/Enterovirus, Parainfluenza virus
- Bacterial targets: *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, *Legionella pneumophila* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*.

*Legionella testing only performed on lower respiratory specimens such as Sputum, Endotracheal aspirate and bronchoscopy specimens. Order Legionella Urine Antigen test if suspected and only upper respiratory specimen submitted