McLaren
MEDICAL LABORATORY

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Laboratory Technical Bulletin

NEW test: Respiratory Pathogen Panel by PCR (RPP)

Effective Date: November 19, 2024

McLaren Medical Laboratory has completed the verification of a new test that expands our ability to identify potential respiratory pathogens from nasopharyngeal specimens. The new test, BioFire® Respiratory Panel v2.1, uses multiplex real-time PCR to qualitatively identify the 19 viral and bacterial pathogens listed below.

The new in-house Respiratory Pathogen Panel by PCR test **replaces the existing Respiratory Viral Panel by PCR** assay (Send-out – ARUP), will reduce the overall TAT for results and provide improved coverage with the detection of additional pathogens from a single swab. This test is **not intended** to replace our current targeted SARS-CoV-2, Influenza or RSV PCR assays for routine testing of patients with uncomplicated upper respiratory symptoms which are generally run on-site at all the hospitals and clinics.

The following organisms and subtypes are identified using the BioFire® RP2.1 assay:

Adenovirus	Human Metapneumovirus
Parainfluenza Virus 1	Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus
Parainfluenza Virus 2	Influenza A, including subtypes H1, H1-2009, and H3
Parainfluenza Virus 3	Influenza B
Parainfluenza Virus 4	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
Coronavirus 229E	*Bordetella parapertussis (IS1001)*
Coronavirus HKU1	*Bordetella pertussis (ptxP)*
Coronavirus NL63	*Chlamydia pneumoniae*
Coronavirus OC43	*Mycoplasma pneumoniae*
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)	

Specimen Requirements

- NP swab placed in 1-3 mL of viral transport media or saline and placed at 2-8°C within 4 hrs of collection.
- Storage and Transport
  - Room temperature (15-25°C) for up to 4 hours
  - Refrigerated (2-8°C) for up to 3 days
  - Frozen (≤-15°C or ≤-70°C) for up to 30 days

Additional Information

- Name of test: Respiratory Pathogen Panel by PCR
- Test code: RPP by PCR

Date submitted: October 29, 2024

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