



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**
101 Grove Street, Room 419
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: (415) 554-2800 Fax: (415) 431-0651
Godfred Masinde, PhD., Lab Director
CLIA ID # 05D0643643

Test Order

Influenza A/B Typing Real-time PCR

Synonym(s)	Influenza PCR
Methodology	Real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Upper respiratory specimens: Nasopharyngeal swab, nasopharyngeal aspirate, nasal wash, or aspirate.- Lower respiratory specimens: bronchioalveolar lavage (BAL), bronchial wash, tracheal aspirate, and sputum
Transport / Collection Medium	Respiratory specimens should be collected and placed into Universal viral transport media (UVT) or universal transport media (UTM). Transport specimens refrigerated at 2-8 ⁰ C. Alternatively Ship specimens on dry ice in compliance with DoT and IATA regulations governing Biological Substances, Category B (UN 3373) Monday -Thursday. Specimen can also be sent via courier Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm.
Storage and Preservation of Specimen	Store at 2 – 8 ⁰ C for up to 72 h; otherwise freeze at ≤-70 ⁰ C.
Minimum Volume Required	2 mL
Additional Collection Instructions	Requisition required for all specimens.
Additional Required Information	Label specimens with at least 2 patient identifiers
Send Out?	No
Turnaround Time	7 business days from receipt
Testing Restrictions	
Requisition Form(s)	https://www.sfcddcp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/DPH-Lab-COVID-Requisition-Form-Ver-2-2021.02.10.pdf
Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers	Please refer to the San Francisco Communicable Disease Control Unit for more additional acceptable specimen types and for more information: https://www.sfcddcp.org/communicable-disease/disease-reporting/influenza-reporting-resources/

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