

Point of care Influenza and RSV testing for patients (For Roche LIAT).

Please NOTE: This protocol is for patients who have already been tested NEGATIVE for COVID-19

This protocol is to identify patients who are positive for Influenza

Before entering the patients room

- Think – does this patient need a point of care influenza at this time? Could they have it checked on a nose/throat swab sent to the lab? Is the patient COVID-19 positive?
- Are you trained to use the LIAT
- Ensure the LIAT is functioning as expected.
- Ensure you have the appropriate equipment before entering sterile saline/water, container with screw cap addressograph labels x2, and mucolyse (when using sputum ITU only).
- Don PPE as per HPS guidance*

In the patients room

Collect ET Aspirate (ITU Only)

- Label sample container with addressograph label prior to entering room
- Wear PPE * including FFP3 mask.
- Collect sputum.
- Dip a cotton swab into a sputum ensure its fully coated
- Remove swab from sputum and place coated swab into mucolyse, swizzle gently to remove the sputum from the swab
- Discard swab as biological waste
- Leave mucolyse/sputum to incubate for 15 mins
- After collection of specimen
 - Specimen container is decontaminated post collection – wiped with 70% Isopropanol wipe, prior to sending to laboratory, again to reduce external contamination
 - Remove gloves and wear fresh pair of gloves and place specimen container into a clear plastic sample bag.
 - PPE should be removed and the area around the patient wiped down with appropriate disinfectant, and wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub
 - Don clean PPE as per HPS guidance *
 - Refer LIAT processing**

Collect Gargle

- Label sample container with addressograph label prior to entering room
- Wear PPE* including fluid-resistant Type IIR surgical face mask and goggles
- Ask patient to gargle for ten/twenty seconds with water/saline and spit into a wide mouth container place lid and securely fasten
- Wipe outside of sample container with 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe
- After collection of specimen

- Specimen container is decontaminated post collection – wiped with 70% Isopropanol wipe, prior to sending to laboratory, again to reduce external contamination
- PPE should be removed and the area around the patient wiped down with appropriate disinfectant, and wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub
- Don clean PPE as per HPS guidance *
- Refer LIAT processing**

Collect Nasal Pharyngeal Swab (NPS)

- Label sample container with addressograph label prior to entering room
- Wear PPE* including fluid-resistant Type IIR surgical face mask and goggles
- Collect NPS as per normal procedure
- Place swab/specimen into transport media and gently swirl
- After collection of specimen
 - Specimen container is decontaminated post collection – wiped with 70% Isopropanol wipe, prior to sending to laboratory, again to reduce external contamination
 - PPE should be removed and the area around the patient wiped down with appropriate disinfectant, and wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub
 - Don clean PPE as per HPS guidance *
 - Refer LIAT processing**

****Preparing LIAT Cartridge – process identical for sputum, gargle & NPS**

- **To reduce contamination perform loading of LIAT cartridge at patient's bedside**
- Open the testing cartridge and label it with the second addressograph label
- Open the lid of the sample taken and utilising the pipette provided within the testing kit, depress the bulb place the pipette under the sample fluid line and release the bulb this should provide you with enough fluid for the test to complete
- Remove the lid of the testing cartridge and depress the fluid in the pipette into the first compartment of the cartridge
- Ensure the fluid line is in line with the dimple, if not add more fluid.
- Dispose of pipette as biological waste
- Place cap back on the testing cartridge
- Place cap back on sample and discard sample as biological waste
- Wipe down area utilised, including the outside of the POC testing cartridge with 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe
- Remove PPE and Perform hand hygiene (wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub)

Putting the sample through LIAT analyser (analyser located in dedicated room)

- Don a fresh pair of disposable gloves
- Take sample cartridge to room with LIAT analyser and load into the LIAT analyser as per normal procedure
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene (wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub)

- Once test complete, remove and safely dispose of test from strip from LIAT into a sharp safe container
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene (wash hands or hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub)
- Cleaning use – wipe down the touch screen with 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe
- Visible contamination - the device will need to be decontaminated
 - For touch screen decontaminate with 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe only as other products will damage screen
 - For contamination of the exterior surface of LIAT – use 5-10% chlorine solution
 - For internal contamination contact Virology department
 - Dispose of any wises and any other clinical waste in the clinical waste stream
- Remove PPE and perform hand hygiene

* DROPLET (RESPIRATORY) PRECAUTIONS

- Disposable apron; consider fluid-resistant disposable gown.
- Disposable gloves
- Fluid-resistant Type IIR surgical face mask and goggles/FFP3 mask for ITU staff utilising ET aspirates.