Testing for COVID-19 is now available.

The Assurance COVID-19 PCR is preferred in both the inpatient and outpatient setting with an estimated turnaround time of 24 hours. LabCorp COVID-19 NAA is also available, but at present has an estimated turnaround time of 3-5 days.

Nasopharynx preferred are preferred specimens for both Assurance PCR and LabCorp NAA.

As other respiratory viruses including influenza are circulating in the community, we recommend that testing for COVID-19 be ordered in conjunction with our currently available Rapid Influenza/RSV or Extended Respiratory Viral panel PCR for patients presenting with respiratory symptoms in selected circumstances.

As you are all aware, this is a rapidly evolving situation and testing guidance will be updated accordingly depending on community transmission dynamics and test capacity.

Do not ignore other signs and symptoms during this COVID-19 period, as patients with fever and signs of infection should be treated by current guidelines (e.g. neutropenic fever, sepsis) by inpatient services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Date available</th>
<th>Electronic Order Naming Convention (needed for internal tracking)</th>
<th>Paper or Electronic Requisition for processing</th>
<th>Specimen Required</th>
<th>Estimated Turnaround Time</th>
<th>How to Receive Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assurance PCR</td>
<td>3/12/20</td>
<td>Coronavirus (COVID-19), Assurance Lab</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>NP swab</td>
<td>24 hours</td>
<td>Fax and web portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LabCorp NAA</td>
<td>3/06/20</td>
<td>Coronavirus (COVID-19), NAA-(LC)</td>
<td>Paper at present, expected to become electronic</td>
<td>NP swab</td>
<td>3-5 days</td>
<td>Fax and web portal at present, expected to be interfaced into Cerner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Other COVID-19 testing vendors available as of 3/13/20 include ARUP and ADPH State Lab. Due to the rapidly evolving situation, testing and specimen collection guidance will be updated according to the USA Health Division of Infectious Diseases Medical Directors.*
Nasopharyngeal swab (preferred) AND oropharyngeal swab (NP/OP swab) Procedure:

1. Ensure that all infection prevention & control steps are followed including:
   a. Hand hygiene before and after the procedure and before and after the patient encounter
   b. Follow isolation status of patient. Minimum PPE includes mask, eye protection, gown and gloves.

2. **Preferred** Nasopharyngeal swab: Insert a swab into the nostril parallel to the palate.
   - Leave swab in place for 2-3 seconds then rotate completely around for 10-15 seconds. **Note:** Although not painful, patients generally feel very uncomfortable with this procedure. Be prepared for them to pull their head and/or body away. This procedure may also generate a cough so prepare to move to the side if possible, especially after completing the process.
   - Remove swab and repeat the same process in the other nostril with the same swab.

3. **Oropharyngeal(throat) swab** (if unable to perform nasopharyngeal swab): Swab the posterior pharynx, avoiding the tongue.

4. After the swab procedure is completed, immediately place into the sterile vial containing the transport media. The shaft of the swab is snapped off at the red line. This line usually aligns with the length of the swab that can fit into the tube.

5. Ensure that cap is closed tightly and place the tube into a biohazard bag with an absorbent material.

6. Place biohazard bag containing specimen in separate biohazard bag with the paper requisition form in outside pocket if one is required.