BioFire for Respiratory Panel 2.1 **(Revised 01/10/2024)**	
Test Description	Qualitative assay for the detection and identification of multiple respiratory viral and bacterial nucleic acids.
Test Use	To aid in the diagnosis of microbial and viral infection in individuals exhibiting symptoms of acute respiratory illness. Typically used for congregate setting outbreak investigations in consultation with CT DPH
Test Department	Advanced Molecular Diagnostics Phone: (860) 920-6689, FAX: (860) 920-6721
Methodology	PCR-based multiplexed nucleic acid test for the detection of 15 respiratory viruses and 4 bacterial nucleic acids.
Availability	Daily, Monday-Friday
Specimen Requirements	Nasopharyngeal swab submitted in viral or universal transport media.
Collection Kit/Container	M4RT viral transport tube; Sterile polyester–tipped sampling swab; Category B shipping box with ice pack. To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Collect sample within 3 days of symptom onset. Use only synthetic tipped swabs (such as polyester or Dacron) with plastic or aluminum shafts. Do NOT use calcium alginate or cotton-tipped, or wooden shaft swabs. Immediately place swabs into viral transport media
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimen at 2-8°C up to 3 days. Transport to the laboratory with a frozen ice pack. If there is a delay in shipment expected, store specimens at -70°C or lower until delivered to the laboratory.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimen Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens not handled, stored, or transported as described above
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition, OL-9B (Select **Respiratory Panel**)
Required Information	Name and address of submitter. Two patient identifiers (i.e. name, DOB, Acc.#, MRN), Town of residence (city, state, zip), Specimen source/type, date collected, test(s) requested. Please ensure information on the requisition matches the specimen.
Limitations	• The detection of viral and bacterial nucleic acid is dependent upon proper specimen collection, handling, transportation, storage, and preparation. Failure to observe proper procedures in any one of these steps can lead to incorrect results. • There is a risk of false positive or false negative values resulting from improperly collected, transported, or handled specimens.
Additional comments	• Negative results do not preclude SARS-CoV-2 infection and should not be used as the sole basis for treatment or other patient management decisions