CDC Influenza SARS-CoV-2 Multiplex
(Emergency Use Authorization)
Revised 05/30/2025

Test Description	Assay for the simultaneous qualitative detection and differentiation of nucleic acids from the SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A, and/or Influenza B viruses in upper or lower respiratory specimens
Test Use	To aid in the diagnosis of individuals suspected of respiratory viral infection consistent with COVID-19 or influenza for public health surveillance purposes or outbreak investigations
Test Department	Advanced Molecular Diagnostics Phone: (860) 920-6689, FAX: (860) 920-6721
Methodology	Real-time RT-PCR multiplexed test
Availability	Daily, Monday-Friday
Specimen Requirements	Nasopharyngeal, oropharyngeal, nasal, or mid-turbinate swab specimen collected and placed into a transport tube containing 1-3 mL viral or universal transport medium. Sputum can be collected in a sterile container. Bronchial Lavage samples are acceptable in Phosphate Buffer Saline.
Collection Kit/Container	To obtain a specimen collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Use freshly collected specimens for optimal test performance. Inadequate specimen collection or improper sample handling, storage, or transport may yield erroneous results. Refer to the CDC Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html
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; Improper specimen type; 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 **Influenza/SARS-CoV-2 multiplex PCR**)
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	Performance of the Influenza SARS-CoV-2 (Flu SC2) Multiplex Assay has only been established in upper and lower respiratory specimens. 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. Performance evaluations have shown decreased sensitivity of the influenza A target when a high titer of SARS-CoV2 or influenza B is also present in the sample.
Additional comments	The possibility of a false negative result should especially be considered if the patient's recent exposures or clinical presentation suggest that SARS-CoV-2 infection is possible. In the case of influenza A and B viruses, children tend to shed virus more abundantly and for longer periods of time than adults. The performance of the assay has not been established in individuals who received nasally administered influenza vaccine. If Influenza A or B is detected by the CDC Influenza SARS-CoV-2 (Flu SC2) multiplex assay, influenza typing for monitoring of circulating influenza strains will be performed.