Respiratory Tract Microbiota Panel

(Revised 01/10/2024)

Test Description	Qualitative assay for the characterization of key respiratory tract microbial targets
Test Use	To aid in the diagnosis of microbial 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	Fixed content OpenArray™ format using real-time PCR optimized for the detection of 32 respiratory tract viral and bacterial nucleic acids
Availability	Daily, Monday-Friday
Specimen Requirements	Nasopharyngeal swab submitted in viral or universal transport media; Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL), 2 mL, in a sterile screw capped container
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 Rhinovirus assay detects both RV and Enterovirus strains whereas the EV assays are specific for EV strains. Thus, enterovirus positive samples are detected by both EV and RV assays; rhinovirus positive samples are detected only by the RV assay. • Samples positive for the EV_D68 assay may be detected by the EV_pan assay. • Due to the high prevalence of human infection with HHV4 (EBV) and HHV6 viruses, these viruses can be detected at low levels in some respiratory samples.
Additional comments	• Samples positive for the RSVA assay may also be detected by the RSVB assay. • It is not unusual to detect *H. influenzae, K. pneumoniae,* and *S. pneumoniae* in respiratory samples as these are commensal or transiently commensal upper respiratory tract microbes.