

SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19] by Real-Time PCR Reverse Transcription (CDC NI, N2, RP targets)

What is COVID-19?

- Coronavirus Disease 2019, or COVID-19, is the name for the respiratory syndrome caused by infection with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).
- The virus, which has infected and caused deaths of over 4 million people worldwide, originated in Wuhan City, China.
- Additional cases have now been reported in the United States.
- An infection with coronavirus 229E, NL63, OC43, or HKU1 is not the same as a COVID-19 infection.
- Patients with COVID-19 are evaluated and cared for differently than patients diagnosed with a common coronavirus.

What are the symptoms?

- Common signs of infection may appear **2-14 days after exposure** and include:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath & breathing difficulties
- In severe cases, infection can cause:
 - Pneumonia
 - Severe acute respiratory syndrome
 - Kidney failure
 - Death
- People with heart or lung disease, weakened immune systems, and older adults are at higher risk for severe lower respiratory tract illness.

How is COVID-19 spread?

- This virus is spread person-to-person by someone who is currently sick with COVID-19 through:
 - Respiratory droplets produced while coughing and sneezing
 - Close personal contact (i.e., within about 6 feet)
 - Touching or shaking hands

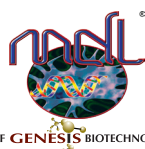
- It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not reported to be the primary way the virus spreads.

Diagnosis of COVID-19

- Patients who meet the testing criteria described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), should undergo testing for SARS-CoV-2.
- Other respiratory pathogens (e.g., influenza, respiratory syncytial virus) should be assessed in the differential diagnosis.
- COVID-19 cannot be properly diagnosed by clinical means due to symptom overlap with other common viral infections.
- Molecular techniques detect the actual virus itself.

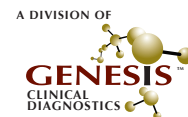
Testing for SARS-CoV-2

- Medical Diagnostic Laboratories (MDL) offers test:
1131 **SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19] by Reverse Transcription Real-Time PCR (CDC NI, N2, RP targets)**
 - Approval has been granted by the New Jersey State Department of Health to perform the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) by Real-Time Reverse Transcription PCR (CDC N1, N2, RP Targets) in accordance with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use authorization (EUA) policy.
 - This test has not been FDA cleared or approved.
 - This test has been submitted for authorization by the FDA under an EUA for use by authorized laboratories.
- Acceptable specimens include:
 - Nasopharyngeal swab OR oropharyngeal swab specimen collection submitted in a **COVID-OneSwab™** viral transport media vial
 - **NasoSwab®** specimen collection for adult patients ONLY of the mid-turbinate area (may be self-collected on-site)
- Specimens should be refrigerated until ready for transport and shipped within 72 hours of collection.



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UPD: 5.13.20