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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

JANUARY 2021

SARS-CoV-2 PCR TESTING NOW OFFERED ON SALIVA

Physicians Laboratory is proud to announce that our facility has been authorized to perform SalivaDirect™ testing under the Yale University FDA Emergency Use Authorization. Saliva testing shows similar sensitivity and specificity as the NP swab; however, it has the advantage of a simple and pain free collection process. The test information is as follows:

4981 SalivaDirect SARS-CoV-2 RNA by Dual-Plex RT-qPCR
Specimen: Saliva (Call Client Service for Collection Kit)
Stability: Ambient or refrigerated 1 week.
CPT: U0003 / If TAT < 48 Hours Add CPT U0005
Collection Instructions: www.physlab.com/collect/salivadirect.pdf

Additional questions can be directed to Kacey Moreland via email kmoreland@physlab.com or phone (402)677-8872.

EFFECTIVE 01/01/2021 – THE FOLLOWING TESTS HAVE BEEN DEACTIVATED

Physicians Laboratory can no longer order NasoSwab or UroSwab samples for testing performed at Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (MDL). For this reason, the following tests have been discontinued. Physicians Laboratory will continue to offer a limited menu of tests through MDL; however, only a ThinPrep vial will be accepted for testing.

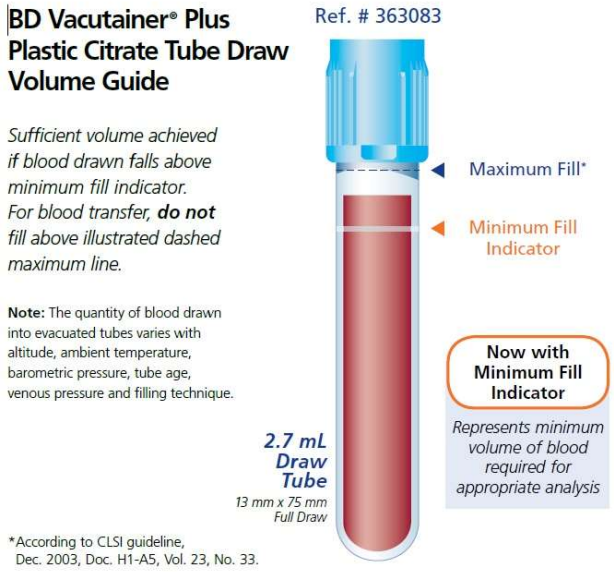
Test #	Test Name
7671	Actinomyces europeaus by Real-Time PCR
7682	Bacterial Vaginosis Panel w/ M. mulieris & M. curtisii by PCR
7524	H1N1 Influenza Virus with Tamiflu Resistance
4960	Herpes subtype (HSV-1, HSV-2) by Real Time PCR
7658	HPV Type Detect 3.0 by Next Gen Sequencing
8135	Megasphaera species (Type 1 & 2) by PCR
7645	Mobiluncus mulieris & M. curtisii by PCR
4347	MRSA by PCR
7629	Mycoplasma Panel by PCR
7652	Mycoplasma Pneumonia by PCR
2442	Respiratory Viral Panel by PCR
7799	Urogenital Ureaplasma & Mycoplasma by PCR
7643	Vaginal Group B Strep (GBS) by PCR

CPT CODE CHANGES – EFFECTIVE 01/01/2021

Test #	Test Name	Previous CPT	New CPT
701	Acetaminophen	80307	80143
479	Flecainide	80299	80181
799	Amiodarone & Metabolite	80299	80151
721	Salicylate	80307	80179
1984	Felbamate	80339	80167
8364	Itraconazole, Quant by LC-MS/MS	80299	80189
1786	Methotrexate	80299	80204
8556	UGT1A1 TA Repeat Genotype	81350	81404

HEMATOLOGY – PT, PTT, D-DIMER COLLECTION, STORAGE, AND STABILITY REMINDERS

Light blue top tubes must be filled completely in order to ensure accurate results. Sufficient volume is achieved if the blood drawn falls between the minimum and maximum fill line on the tube. If transferring blood from a syringe do not fill the tube above the illustrated dashed maximum line in the picture below. It is recommended a discard tube be used to establish blood flow prior to filling the light blue tube. Specimens that are not filled to the line on the tube or are overfilled will be cancelled.



After blood collection, there is progressive degradation of the labile coagulation factors V and VIII, leading to increased prolongation of the aPTT and PT. The allowable time interval between specimen collection and sample testing depends on the temperature encountered during transport and storage of the specimen. Allowable time intervals are as follows:

1. PT specimens, uncentrifuged, centrifuged with plasma remaining in the tube above the packed red cells, or as centrifuged plasma separated from the cells, should be kept at room temperature (18 to 24°C) and tested no longer than 24 hours from the time of specimen collection. **PT specimens should not be refrigerated during storage or transport.**
2. aPTT specimens that are uncentrifuged with plasma remaining in the tube with the packed red cells should be kept at room temperature (18 to 24°C) and tested no longer than 4 hours after the time of specimen collection.
3. aPTT specimens that are centrifuged and plasma separated from the cells should be kept 4 hours at room temperature (18 to 24°C) and tested no longer than 4 hours after the time of specimen collection.
4. If PT or aPTT testing cannot be performed within these times, platelet-poor plasma should be removed from the cells and frozen at -20°C for up to 2 weeks.
5. D-Dimer specimens are stable 4 hours refrigerated and stable indefinitely if frozen. If testing cannot be performed within 4 hours, platelet-poor plasma should be removed from the cells and frozen at -20°C.

Specimens that exceed the appropriate stability requirements and/or are stored incorrectly will be canceled.

Reference:

BD Vacutainer Plus Plastic Citrate Tube Draw Volume Guide. Ref #36083.
http://education.bd.com/images/view.aspx?productId=1544
College of American Pathologists. Survey Coagulation, Limited CGL-A 2016.

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