



SJMH Clinical Laboratory H1N1 testing guidelines

*** New Test Update: Novel (Swine-Origin) H1N1 Influenza Testing ***

Beginning September 21, 2009, SJMHS Clinical Laboratories will provide PCR testing for all major strains of Influenza. This testing is being offered through Warde Medical Laboratory.

When laboratory testing for Influenza is indicated, we recommend ordering the **Influenza A, B and Swine Panel (FLUABSW)**. This PCR panel will test for the presence of Influenza A, Influenza B, and swine-origin Influenza A (Novel H1N1 Influenza virus). This swine-origin Influenza A test has been validated in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Community Health and uses primers from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Pre-approval for ordering this test is not necessary.

On properly collected specimens, the PCR test has >90% sensitivity for all three types of Influenza. Specificity is >95%.

Test code: **FLUABSW** (Please write in under Miscellaneous Tests)
*** **Source must be provided on requisition (naso/phar; oro/phar)*****

Specimen: A combined nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swab in M4 viral transport medium is the preferred specimen. If necessary, an oropharyngeal only or nasopharyngeal only swab is acceptable. Specimens should be collected in the physician's office and either dropped off at an outpatient lab site or sent with the lab courier at the regular pickup.

Turnaround: 24-48 hours (Please note: this test is not available STAT.)

Stability: Room temp: 3 days
Refrigerated: 2 weeks
Frozen -20°C: 2 weeks

Rejection Criteria: The following specimens can not be used for testing: dry swabs, calcium alginate swabs, swabs in gel transport, and Culturette swabs older than 24 hours.



The FLUABSW Panel should be interpreted as follows:

Table 1. Interpretation guide for the Influenza A, B, and Swine Panel.					
Flu A:	Negative	Positive	Positive	Negative	Negative
Flu B:	Negative	Negative	Negative	Positive	Negative
Swine:	Negative	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive
Interp.	Influenza not detected	Seasonal Influenza Virus	Swine-origin Influenza Virus	Influenza B Virus	Indeterminate Result

Differentiating novel H1N1 influenza from seasonal influenza is not clinically necessary in all cases, but testing may help determine which antiviral therapies are indicated.

Antiviral Drug	Swine-Origin H1N1	Seasonal A/H1N1	Seasonal A/H3N2
Zanamivir	Sensitive	Sensitive	Sensitive
Oseteltamivir	Sensitive	Resistant	Sensitive
Amantadine/ Rimantadine	Resistant	Sensitive*	Resistant

*0.5% of isolates are resistant

Please call (734) 712-3141 and ask for your Client Services Representative if you have any questions or would like to order supplies.