



Date: April 20, 2020
To: Calgary Zone Physicians
From: Alberta Precision Laboratories - Calgary, Microbiology
Re: Redirection of RSV/Influenza Testing to APL-Public Health Laboratory

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Key Message:

- Effective April 14, 2020, on-site RSV/Influenza testing will be suspended at APL-Calgary.
- This change does not affect COVID-19 testing. All specimens for rapid RSV/influenza or Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPP) will continue to be tested for COVID-19.
- Specimens for RSV/influenza testing from hospitalized patients will be sent to APL-Public Health Laboratory for COVID-19 testing and RPP, which includes influenza and RSV.
- Specimens for RSV/influenza testing from community patients will be forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for COVID-19 testing.

Why This Is Important:

- As influenza season ends and the number of COVID-19 cases increases in Alberta, viral testing resources are being deployed to focus on COVID-19.

Action Required:

- No change in ordering or collection practices are necessary. RSV/Influenza testing orders that are received at APL-Calgary will be redirected as above.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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