Additional testing is not recommended and should be discouraged for patients that test positive for COVID-19 by a diagnostic test, such as a PCR or antigen test.

Current guidance requires local health departments to treat any individual with a positive COVID-19 PCR or antigen test, regardless of a simultaneous or subsequent negative test result(s), as potentially infectious and thus subject to isolation and contact tracing. Contacts to such individuals require identification and quarantine.

Negative COVID-19 rapid or point of care antigen tests must be confirmed by a conventional COVID-19 RT-PCR test as rapid antigen tests are highly specific but not very sensitive. Negative COVID-19 rapid point of care RT-PCR tests in symptomatic individuals or patients exposed to a COVID-19 lab positive case also should be confirmed by a conventional COVID-19 RT-PCR test.

Per the NYSDOH Advisory at https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/doh_covid19_reportingtestresults_rev_043020.pdf, all COVID-19 testing must be reported to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) electronically through the NYSDOH Electronic Clinical Laboratory Reporting System (ECLRS) and the Westchester County Department of Health (WCDH) regardless of whether your office or facility is permitted to operate as a lab within NYS. This includes the more recently available Point of Care (POC) rapid antigen and PCR test results. If you are reporting COVID-19 test results electronically through ECLRS, there is no need to independently fax report to WCDH.

Assistance with electronic reporting is available at 1-866-325-7743. If your ability to report lab results electronically is still in progress, please fax positive COVID-19 lab reports to 914-813-5182 together with the attached reporting form.

NYSDOH Wadsworth Center has posted a listing of labs with excess COVID-19 testing capacity at https://www.wadsworth.org/testing-capacity which will be updated weekly

Please note these labs do not offer specimen collection services.