

# ATTENTION

## Public Health Alert

DATE: September 17, 2020

SUBJECT: 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)  
**Testing and Laboratory Updates**

- **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 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.**
- **Per the NYSDOH Advisory at [https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/doh\\_covid19\\_reportingtes\\_results\\_rev\\_043020.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/doh_covid19_reportingtes_results_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.**

Assistance with electronic reporting is available at 1-866-325-7743. Lab reports can also be faxed 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.**

**Thank you as always for your support and commitment during this COVID-19 public health emergency.**

**These Public Health Updates also are posted to the Physician section of the WCDH website at <https://health.westchestergov.com/physician-corner>**

COVID-19 Reporting Form  
Providers Serving Westchester County Residents  
Westchester County Department of Health  
**FAX to 914-813-5182**

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Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female Ethnicity:  Hispanic  Non-Hispanic  Unknown

Race:  White  Black  Asian  Native American/Alaskan  
 Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian  Other  Unknown

Is patient a staff or resident of a congregate living facility (nursing home, assisted living facility, group home, shelter, correctional facility, residential children's facility, residential school or college)?

YES  NO

If YES, please provide Facility:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Date of Diagnosis: PLEASE PROVIDE COVID-19 POSITIVE (+) LAB REPORT  
The Lab Report MUST SPECIFY THE MANUFACTURER AND TEST KIT USED.**

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Reporting Individual: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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