



Newfoundland & Labrador

PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY NETWORK

Dr. LA Miller Centre, 100 Forest Road, St. John's, NL A1A 3Z9

(709) 777-6583

www.publichealthlab.ca

MEMORANDUM

FROM: NL PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY (PHML)
TO: ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
RE: UPDATE ON MOLECULAR RESPIRATORY TESTING
DATE: JUNE 24, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

An updated lab developed respiratory molecular panel used at PHML now screens for 22 pathogens:

SARS-CoV-2, Flu A/B, RSV, Rhinovirus/Enterovirus, Seasonal Coronavirus (229E, OC43, HKU1, NL63), Metapneumovirus, Adenovirus, Parainfluenza 1-4, Parechovirus, Bocavirus, *Chlamydomphila pneumoniae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* and *Bordetella pertussis/parapertussis*.

There are no changes for ordering or sample collection/transport of the respiratory virus panel (RESVIP). Continue to order *B. pertussis* PCR (BPERDP) for patients suspected of whooping cough, and *C. pneumoniae* PCR (CPNEDP) for those suspected of atypical pneumonia. Highlighting these will help triage the samples for the appropriate testing on your differential.

SARS-CoV-2 **only** RT-qPCR will continue to be tested on respiratory samples from patients not currently admitted to acute care, long term care, and other residential care locations. As capacity allows further broad testing will be applied to other at-risk patient populations.

Questions related to this update can be directed to the PHML Director's Office at 709-777-7233 or via email to angela.burse@easternhealth.ca

For any diagnostic test or other patient related questions, the microbiologist on call can be reached through hospital locating at 709 777 6300 or via email at microbiologistoncall@easternhealth.ca

