



Newfoundland & Labrador

PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY NETWORK

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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

FROM: PUBLIC HEALTH MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY

RE: RESPIRATORY TESTING MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 20, 2022

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) detection continues to be of importance in high risk settings, and now other respiratory pathogens are circulating that cause similar presentations and syndromes.

To streamline workflow based on patient location and symptoms to support management, clinicians **MUST** identify specimens in the Meditech comment section or on the lab requisition as follows to ensure the specimen gets triaged appropriately:

For HOSPITAL IN-PATIENTS use **IP**

For ER IN-PATIENTS use **ER-IN**

For LTC residents use **LTC**

For other Residential Care residents use **RC ***

AND if either:

Asymptomatic: **ASY**

Symptomatic: **SYM**

*Residential Care: Personal Care home, Group Homes, Prisons

If your patient only got a COVID-19 test result and there are medical grounds to have that individual's specimen tested for other respiratory pathogens, please forward this request with accompanying clinical reasoning to the microbiologist on call via microbiologistoncall@easternhealth.ca or contact through switchboard 709 777 6300.

Questions around this memorandum can be directed to the Office of PHML Director or Senior Operations Manager by contacting 709 777 7233.

