

October 1, 2008

TO: Outreach Clients

FROM: Bellin Microbiology Lab

SUBJECT: Respiratory Viral Tests

Again this year, we will be making our own cytospin smears for direct fluorescent antibody staining (DFA). Therefore, it will not be necessary to submit pre-made direct smears. The recommended specimens for both RSV and Influenza are nasopharyngeal swabs or nasal washes in M5 transport media. Collect left and right NP (wire-shafted) swabs and place both in one M5 tube. Polyester or rayon NP swabs should be used. Refrigerate after collection. Throat swabs will not be accepted due to decreased yield. Contact the Microbiology Lab at 433-3725 if you have questions.

<u>TEST</u>	<u>MEDITECH</u>	<u>SPECIMEN</u> <u>(IN M5)</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
Influenza panel	INFLUENZAPANEL	NP swabs or nasal wash	DFA cytospin. If negative a 24 hour shell vial culture will be added.
Rapid RSV	RSVRAPID	NP swabs or Nasal wash	DFA cytospin
Respiratory Viral Smear	VIRRESPSM	NP swabs or Nasal wash	DFA cytospin for Influenza A/B, Parainflu 1, 2, 3, and RSV. If negative, a viral culture will be added.
Viral culture	VIRC	Respiratory specimen	14 day viral culture

Specimens received by 7AM will generally have results available by 10AM.