

PHSA Laboratories

Public Health Microbiology & Reference Laboratory

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Outbreak Laboratory Form

Submit specimens to: BCCDC: Public Health Microbiology & Reference Laboratory
 Virology Laboratory
 655 WEST 12th AVENUE
 VANCOUVER, BC V5Z 4R4
 Tel: 604-707-2623
 Fax : 604-707-2605

Submitter's Name and Address:

Outbreak Contact: (The order of reporting results will be 1) Facility, 2) MHO 3) Med Micro on call for the BCCDC: if an answering machine or pager is contacted a message will be left and in 15 minutes the next call will be made...when the result has been reported the call chain will stop.)

1) Facility Name: _____ Telephone: _____
 2) MHO Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Date of Collection: (yy/mm/dd)

Patient Name	PHN or DOB	Swab Site	BCCDC CID Number	Flu A/B NAT		Notes

LAB USE ONLY

- 1) **Before shipping**, send this **completed form** to the BCCDC by Fax **(604) 707-2605**
- 2) **Enclose this completed form** and **completed requisition(s)** with the **specimen(s)** and ship to BCCDC
- 3) Inform your MHO of the outbreak

Test results will be telephoned to the Outbreak Contact, designated above.

For BCCDC lab use only:

Test results phoned to: _____
 Time and date of call: _____
 Name of caller: _____

During respiratory season, specimens will be processed for influenza virus by nucleic acid testing and for respiratory viruses by the Respiratory Virus Panel Luminex assay as well as by conventional cell culture. Nasal and nasopharyngeal swabs are preferred but nasopharyngeal washes, suction and other lower respiratory tract specimens are acceptable as well.

Collection Kits:

Nasal/Nasopharyngeal swabs must be collected using a designated **ILI Specimen Collection Kit**. These kits (six swabs containing transport medium, biohazard bags and the Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Outbreak Laboratory Form) are provided by the BCCDC.

To order collection kits:

Use a BCCDC order form or a written request on your letterhead showing your **shipping address** and the **number of kits required**, send by mail ("attn. Shipping and Receiving") to the address overleaf or fax to **(604) 707-2606**.

Indications for Testing:

Collect specimens from patients presenting with Influenza-like illness within 72 hours of onset of symptoms. Specimens from severely ill patients and children are acceptable after 72 hours of symptom onset.

Specimen collection:

- For personal protection, it is recommended that gloves and a facemask be worn while collection specimen.
- Patients with copious discharge should be requested to gently clean their nose by washing or with tissue.
- Incline the patient's head as required and insert the cotton swab along the base of the nasal cavity to a depth of 2-4 cm into the nostril. Swab around the inside of the nostril and along the nasal septum by rotating the swab between fingers
- Place the swab into the accompanying vial of transport media and tighten the lid securely.
- Label** the container with the patient's **full name** and **date of birth**.

It is essential that the nasal passage be swabbed sufficiently firmly to collect infected cells rich in virus. Nasopharyngeal swabs inserted along the base of the nasal cavity (6cm or deeper) are excellent but may be more traumatic to the patient. Mucous discharge and throat swabs contain less virus and are discouraged.

Completing accompanying documentation:

One BCCDC Virus Isolation **requisition** must be completed for **each specimen**.

Only One Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Outbreak Laboratory Form is required for **each outbreak** (max. Six specimens on 1st sampling).

Please included PHN and Date of birth on requisition

In completing the requisition:

Under **Examination Desired**, enter testing for Influenza

Under **Return Address**, enter the full name, billing address and telephone number of the physician/facility to whom the final report will be sent.

Under **Copy Report To**, if desired, enter the name and billing number of another Health Unit or physician.

Submission of a completed Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Outbreak Laboratory Form with the specimens ensures that processing and reporting of findings reported is given highest priority.

Transportation of specimens:

Assemble outbreak specimens and follow Transport of Dangerous Goods regulations; include an ice pack if feasible.

Send by routine same day or overnight delivery or if not available, by courier.

Outside the Lower Mainland: DHL, 1-800-CALL-DHL (1-800-225-5345); bill to Acct. M45579.

Lower Mainland: Dynamex, (604) 432-7700; bill to Acct.23270.

Reporting:

Specimens received before 14:00h, Mon. to Fri.: preliminary results for influenza will be available by 20:00h the same day.

Specimens received on Fri. after 14:00, or Sat, Sun and Holidays after 12:00pm will initially be processed to rule IN Influenza infection using a point-of-care test only and subsequently tested on following day as outlined above.

For inquiries: Please call **Results Line at (877)-747-2522 from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday.**