

ANNOUNCEMENT

To: Crozer Keystone Health System Physicians and Clinical Staff

From: Gary Zimmer, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Irma Elizabeth Palazzo MD, Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, CKHS

Christy L. Hunt, MT(ASCP), Laboratory Quality Manager

Date: 3/17/2020

Re: COVID-19 Testing, Quest Diagnostics

Starting Tuesday, March 17th, 2020, Crozer-Keystone Laboratories will be enhancing our testing menu and will now offer clinicians COVID-19 testing by Qualitative Real-Time PCR. This testing will be performed at Quest Diagnostics in Chantilly, Virginia.

****REMINDER** ALL CKHS CLINICIANS SHOULD ORDER AND COLLECT THE FLU/RSV AND RESPIRATORY PANEL BEFORE ORDERING A COVID-19 TEST AND COLLECTING A SPECIMEN.**

Testing will be limited to those patients who meet the criteria of the Crozer-Keystone Health System COVID-19 testing pathway (see attached) or approved by the Crozer-Keystone Chief Medical Officer.

CKHS Outpatient phlebotomists do not collect respiratory specimens. COVID-19 specimens cannot be collected in the CKHS Outpatient Laboratory locations.

Currently, specimens must be collected in the hospital emergency departments. Please contact the emergency department prior to sending the patient. This is a very fluid situation. Additional testing resources will be communicated as they become available.

Inpatient Ordering: The test 'COVID-19' is now available in eCare and PICIS using the alpha browse function.

Specimen requirements: Upper respiratory samples collected using a nasopharyngeal swab. One swab per viral transport media container.

Turnaround Time: Test results are typically available 3-4 days from the time of specimen pick-up, and may be impacted by high demand.

Providers will receive a phone call if the test result is positive or inconclusive.

We are asking the workforce to please make sure they are referring and/or transferring members of the community to our Crozer-Keystone Hotline, **not our command center phone number. The hotline number is 15-6730 or 610-447-6730.**