NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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Test	Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2 Assay (GeneXpert)
Test Description	The Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2 test is a rapid, real-time reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test intended for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in upper respiratory specimens (such as nasopharyngeal, oropharyngeal, nasal, or mid-turbinate swab and/or nasal wash/aspirate) collected from individuals suspected of COVID-19 by their healthcare provider. Results are for the identification of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Positive results are indicative of the presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA; clinical correlation with patient history and other diagnostic information is necessary to determine patient infection status.
Acceptable specimens	1. Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab
	A. Insert a swab into the nostril parallel to the palate. Leave the swab in place for a few seconds to absorb secretions.
	 i. Use only synthetic fiber swabs with plastic shafts. Do not use calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden shafts, as they may contain substances that inactivate some viruses and inhibit PCR testing. B. Placed into a vial containing 3 ml of viral transport medium (VTM) or sterile saline. C. Refrigerate specimen at 2-8 °C. 2. OP swab
	A. Swab the posterior pharynx, avoiding the tongue.
	B. Place in 3 ml of VTM or sterile saline.
	C. Refrigerate specimen at 2-8 °C. 3. Nasal swab
	 A. Insert a nasal swab 1 to 1.5 cm into a nostril. Rotate the swab against the inside of the nostril for 3 seconds while applying pressure with a finger to the outside of the nostril. Repeat on the other nostril with the same swab, using external pressure on the outside of the other nostril. To avoid specimen contamination, do not touch the swab tip to anything other than the inside of the nostril. B. Place in 3 ml of VTM or sterile saline. C. Refrigerate specimen at 2-8 °C.
	4. Mid-turbinate (NMT) swab
	 A. Insert the mid-turbinate swab into either nostril, passing it into the mid-turbinate area. Rotate swab by firmly brushing against the mid-turbinate area several times. B. Place in 3 ml of VTM or sterile saline.
	C. Refrigerate specimen at 2-8 °C.

	 5. Nasal wash/aspirate A. Using a clean transfer pipette, transfer 0.600 mL of the sample into a tube containing 3 mL of VTM or saline. Cap the tube. B. Refrigerate specimen at 2-8 °C. Note: Dry swabs, swabs with calcium alginate tips, or swabs with wooden shafts are unacceptable for collecting specimens. If multiple swabs are collected from the same patient, only one swab may be tested. Please consider combining NP and OP swabs into a single collection vial.
Timing of specimen collection (patient eligibility)	Individuals who meet COVID-19 clinical and/or epidemiological criteria (for example, clinical signs and symptoms associated with COVID-19 infection, contact with a probable or confirmed COVID-19 case, history of travel to geographic locations where COVID-19 cases were detected, or other epidemiologic links for which SARS-CoV-2 testing may be indicated as part of a public health investigation). The prioritization of specimens from specific risk groups and the application of these criteria are subject to change by mandate of county health officers.
Specimen storage	Specimens should be kept refrigerated at 2–8°C for up to 7 days after collection.
Specimen shipping	Specimens should be shipped refrigerated (2–8°C), and must be received by the laboratory within 6 days of collection.
CPT code	87635
Test fee	Refer to the posted fee schedule
Result availability (turnaround time)	SARS-CoV-2 testing results are typically available by the next day (by end of day) after specimen receipt.