

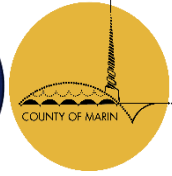
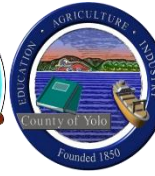
**NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN
COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**

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MEDI CAL #LAB 58707F

ELAP NO.2396
MEDICARE #ZZZ17308Z

Submission protocol for providers: Influenza surveillance 2025

Date: 03/17/2025

For surveillance purposes, local hospitals and clinics are encouraged to submit selected specimens that test positive for influenza A or influenza B to a local public health laboratory. The laboratory will then perform additional testing to subtype the influenza virus. In turn, specimens will be forwarded to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for confirmation and antiviral resistance testing. Together, these surveillance efforts aid in detecting novel influenza viruses for effective intervention and control measures, in determining where and when influenza activity is occurring, and in selecting vaccine strains.

Submission instructions are as follows:

1. The hospital or clinic must be located in Napa, Solano, Yolo or Marin County.
2. The preferred specimen is a nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal sample collected with a dacron-tipped swab and placed in 2–3 mL of viral transport medium. Conjunctival swabs are validated for Influenza A/H5N1 testing at our laboratory.
3. A laboratory requisition, with all required fields completed, must accompany the specimen, and be placed in the side pouch of the specimen bag.
 - a. For “Tests requested”, specify: Influenza A subtyping or Influenza B subtyping
 - b. Under comments, specify the severity of the case (e.g., fatal case, patient required hospitalization, outbreak, outpatient, etc.) as well as whether the patient received seasonal influenza vaccination ≥ 14 days prior to symptoms
4. Once specimens are ready for pickup, contact the laboratory at (707) 784-4410. A pickup will usually be scheduled within one business day.

Subtyping results are usually available in COPIA within 1 week of specimen receipt unless the specimen is referred for further testing at CDPH. Please note that if the specimen was not previously tested for influenza, a fee will be incurred for initial influenza testing. By contrast, subtyping of influenza-positive specimens is performed at no charge.

We appreciate your participation in influenza surveillance efforts. For information on requisitions or influenza PCR testing, please contact the laboratory at (707) 784-4410 or visit our website.

References:

1. Influenza PCR: <https://www.solanocounty.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=45271>
2. Recommendations for Local Health Departments: Influenza and Other Respiratory Virus Testing and Reporting — 2024–2025.