



DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
& LABORATORY MEDICINE

FedEx Instructions for COVID-19 Specimens

SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

COLLECTIONS

1. Collection volume 3 mL, minimum 1 mL.
2. Indicate the specimen type on the swab, Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab or Oropharyngeal (OP).
3. Specimens should be collected directly into Universal Transport Media (UTM) container

STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

- Samples should be transported immediately to the Clinical Laboratory at room temperature or stored during transport at 2°C -8°C for no more than 24 hours. Samples are stable up to 3 days at 2°C -8°C.

CAUSES FOR REJECTION

- Specimens less than 400 ul in volume • Specimens kept at > 4°C for more 24 hours • Specimens older than 3 days • Unlabeled or mislabeled specimen • Leaked specimen • Improperly collected • stored and/or transported specimen.

SHIPPING AND HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

TEMPERATURE

- All samples should be shipped at room temperature or stored during transport at 2°C -8°C for no more than 24 hours. Samples shipped during extremely hot weather periods can be packaged with a cold pack (not an ice pack). Samples are stable up to 3 days at 2°C -8°C.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. To ensure sample integrity, use of the following delivery priorities is highly recommended.

FedEx First Overnight shipped to:

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
4650 Sunset Blvd.
Duque Bldg., 2nd Floor, Room 2-290
Los Angeles, CA 90027

2. Please make every effort to ship specimens on the day they are collected to maximize cell viability, but specimens that are shipped the following day will also be accepted.
3. We accept samples 24 hours 7 days a week.
4. We will notify you within 24 hours of receipt if we are unable to perform testing due to compromised sample integrity.
5. Please notify us ASAP in writing if you wish to cancel a test. Cancellations cannot be accepted once testing has been initiated.
6. Your specimen is important to us. Please email the tracking number to PLMTrack@chla.usc.edu at the time of shipment and include contact information to be used in the event your sample is not received.

HMO Patients NOT accepted at this time