Rhode Island Department of Health
Clinical Specimen Submission Guidance

Submit all specimens to 50 Orms St, Providence RI 02904. Open Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

2019 Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)

Lab	Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory 401-222-5538
Pathogen	*Coronavirus*
Disease	COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019)
Special Instructions	Healthcare providers must **IMMEDIATELY** notify the RIDOH Center for Acute Infectious Disease Epidemiology at (401) 222-2577 in the event of a Patient Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 / SARS-CoV-2 infection.. The criteria to guide evaluation of Patients Under Investigation (PUI) can be found in the CDC interim guidance for Healthcare Professionals at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/clinical-criteria.html
Specimen	Once approved for testing, PUI specimens are collected in accordance with the CDC interim guidelines for collecting and testing clinical specimens from Patients Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 / SARS-CoV-2 infection. The CDC interim guidelines are found at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html Collected specimens are then delivered to the Rhode Island State Health Laboratories (RISHL) for respiratory virus testing and shipment to the CDC for specific SARS-CoV-2 testing. For questions regarding collection or transport of specimens contact the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory at (401) 222-5538. .
Form Required	Rhode Island State Health Laboratories (RISHL) test requisition form http://www.health.ri.gov/laboratorytesting CDC 50.34 Form is also required
Test Request	Write "SARS-CoV-2 PCR" under the Comments/Other test requests
Transport	Specimens must be transported in accordance with current federal shipping regulations. **PREAUTHORIZATION** is required prior to sending specimens.
Reporting Requirement	Providers must report patient information on COVID-19 immediately using the RIDOH reportable disease form.
Turnaround Time	Testing is performed at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention