

MLS Laboratory Update: Influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) laboratory test method survey

MARCH 15, 2023

Purpose of this Message:

To invite Minnesota laboratory partners to participate in a short influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) laboratory test method survey. The survey should take less than 10 minutes.

Action Item:

Laboratory test method survey: To better support our laboratory partners, the MN Department of Health Public Health Laboratory (MDH-PHL) is conducting its yearly survey to determine influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and RSV testing methods being used for the 2022 - 2023 season. The survey asks about your laboratory's testing methods that were used throughout the season, including rapid antigen tests and molecular assays, including multiplex molecular assays. The survey should take less than 10 minutes.

A collated summary of MN laboratories' influenza, SARS-CoV-2 and RSV testing practices will be shared after the survey is complete.

To participate in the survey please use the [2022-2023 MDH-PHL Laboratory Methods Survey](https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE3393558FE) (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE3393558FE>).

Background:

Influenza, SARS-CoV-2 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are major causes of lower respiratory tract illness. Each of these viral pathogens can be detected in the laboratory using a variety of commercially available and laboratory developed assays including rapid antigen detection assays and molecular diagnostic tests. These methods have varying sensitivity and specificity which can impact the detection rates. The results of this survey will inform trends in diagnostic testing over time.

Additional Information:

Please note that the questions in this survey refer to diagnostic testing ordered by healthcare providers for routine clinical care. Do not include information on specimen testing for the purposes of surveillance.

Thank you for taking time to complete this important survey!

Questions: Please contact:

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PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN YOUR INSTITUTION AND HEALTH SYSTEM

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5200.