

COVID-19 Molecular Testing Pharmacy Checklist

Purpose

On April 8, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published [guidance](#) under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act authorizing licensed pharmacists to order and administer FDA-authorized COVID-19 tests for the duration of the national public-health emergency. VDH recognizes the central role pharmacists can play in the response and testing efforts. The below information is intended to clarify the steps pharmacies must take to ensure accurate testing and employee safety. Pharmacies acting as a collection and/or testing site should fill out this [form](#) to be included on the [VDH Testing Locator Map](#).

Models

Model 1 Pharmacist collects specimen or aids in self-collection of the specimen; specimen is sent to a laboratory for testing.	Model 2 Pharmacist collects specimen or aids in self-collection of the specimen; specimen is tested by the pharmacy using a point-of-care test.
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Checklist

Testing Services	
Model 1	Model 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has contracted with a laboratory for testing <i>List of private and reference laboratories accepting specimens from Virginia residents are located here.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has an active CLIA Certificate of Waiver <i>The VDH Office of Licensure and Certification processes CLIA applications for any new Certificate of Waiver requests. Information on application process can be found here.</i>
Testing Supplies	
Model 1	Model 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has obtained specimen collection kits including specimen swabs and viral transport media. <i>Pharmacy should work with contracted laboratory on obtaining supplies. DCLS may be able to provide supplies but it will be limited and allocated as necessary. Reach out to your local health department for more information.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has obtained point-of-care testing machine and testing cassettes. <i>FDA website lists testing devices; Tests with a “W” in the “Authorized Settings” column are CLIA waived tests and can be performed in a patient care/pharmacy setting during the declared emergency.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has obtained specimen collection kits. <i>DCLS may be able to provide supplies but it will be limited and allocated as necessary. Reach out to your local health department for more information.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy employees have been trained on testing machine.
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	
Both Models	
<input type="checkbox"/> CDC Infection Prevention Guidelines have been reviewed. <input type="checkbox"/> CDC Specimen Collection, Handling, and Testing Guidelines have been reviewed with emphasis on PPE required depending on type of specimen collection occurring. <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has obtained adequate PPE. <i>All efforts should be made by the pharmacy to supply their own PPE. Local health departments might be able to assist with PPE but this is on a very limited basis.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy employees have been trained.	

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Training should include at a minimum storage, disposal/recycling, and use of PPE, including fit testing prior to using N-95 respirators.

Specimen Collection	
Model 1	Model 2
<p><input type="checkbox"/> CDC Specimen Collection Guidelines have been reviewed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has received guidance from contracted laboratory on accepted specimen type.</p> <p><i>Patient-collected nasal swabs would be preferred as it limits potential exposures and required PPE.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy employees are trained on the type of specimen collection.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has identified a location to collect specimens and has planned the logistics.</p> <p><i>Specimen collection should take place outside in an open space (e.g., parking lot) to minimize exposure to others in the pharmacy.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has identified a proper method of disposal of specimens and any PPE that may have been in contact with patient.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> CDC Specimen Collection Guidelines have been reviewed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has reviewed manufacture instructions and will abide by the procedures.</p> <p><i>Patient-collected nasal swabs would be preferred as it limits potential exposures and required PPE.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy employees are trained on the type of specimen collection.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has identified a location to collect specimens and has planned the logistics.</p> <p><i>Specimen collection should take place outside in an open space (e.g., parking lot) to minimize exposure to others in the pharmacy.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has identified a proper method of disposal of specimens and any PPE that may have been in contact with patient.</p>

Testing Priorities
Both Models
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has a triage system in place and will prioritize testing.</p> <p><i>Community-based testing priorities must be consistent with CDC testing priorities and/or VDH public health testing priorities. Pharmacies should work with their local health department to determine local testing needs.</i></p>

Communication of Results
Both Models
<p><input type="checkbox"/> CDC Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19 Guidelines have been reviewed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has process in place to notify patient and primary care provider (if applicable) of results.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has process in place to refer positive patients to their primary care provider.</p>

Reporting Results to VDH	
Model 1	Model 2
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has confirmed laboratory will be reporting all results to VDH in accordance with 12VAC5-90-90(B).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy has system in place to report results to VDH.</p> <p><i>Pharmacy must immediately report results to VDH in accordance with 12VAC5-90-90(B), which may be submitted using the online Virginia Epi-1 form.</i></p>

Resources

- [VDH COVID-19 Testing Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [VDH Local Health Department Locator](#)