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Laboratory Services

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**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S®**

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

New Test Directory Coming Soon

We will be rolling out our new test directory this Halloween, October 31! The directory will be accessed through the current website, **NationwideChildrens.org/Lab**. It will contain easier to read collection information and convenient links to frequently used website items such as supply orders.

Preparing for this Respiratory Illness Season



In preparation for respiratory season, we encourage you to check expiration dates on all swabs and viral transport media prior to collecting samples.

As the respiratory season progresses you may notice variability in the viral collection supplies you receive from us. Most of

the viral transport media we provide can be stored at room temperature, but some needs to be refrigerated. Please check the storage temperature printed on the media vial to ensure proper storage. In addition, swabs supplied to you from Nationwide Children's Hospital may also be arriving in packaging from vendors you are not used to seeing.

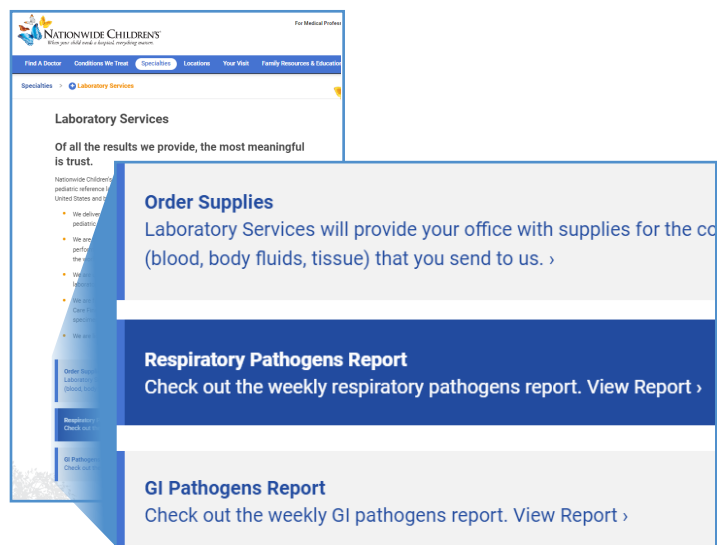
Important To Know

Please check the Laboratory Test Directory for specific test collection requirements, as not all viral transport media is acceptable for all tests.

For respiratory collections, there are many different brands of flocked nasopharyngeal swabs that are provided. If a non-nasopharyngeal swab is needed for the test collection, please request a polyester swab with your supply order.

Tracking Respiratory and GI Pathogens

Winter is fast approaching and respiratory illnesses will soon be on the rise. Laboratory Services would like to remind you of the great practice tool we offer you to track respiratory and GI pathogens in the community. When you visit **NationwideChildrens.org/Lab** make sure you check out the **Weekly Respiratory and GI Pathogens Reports** located near the bottom of the Laboratory Services home page.



To obtain weekly respiratory positivity reports on 11 pathogens such as RSV, Influenza, and Pertussis, and note respiratory illness trends in the Central Ohio area, simply click on the (1.) *Respiratory Pathogens Report* link on the Laboratory Services home page then click on the PDF that will download to your computer.

You can also obtain weekly GI positivity reports on 17 pathogens such as norovirus, rotavirus, and giardia/cryptosporidium, and note GI illness trends in the Central Ohio area. The report represents positive test results from the GI Film Array panel and individual stool infectious disease tests (i.e. Rotavirus antigen). It does not include results from the general stool culture. Simply click on the (2.) *GI Pathogens Report* link on the Laboratory Services home page then click on the PDF that will download to your computer.

Did You Know?



STAT Testing Available at a Nationwide Children's Laboratory Service Center Near You

Nationwide Children's Laboratory Services offers an extensive menu of STAT testing at many of the Laboratory Service Centers in Ohio. No matter what time of day, you can count on Nationwide Children's Laboratory Client Services department to call you with all critical and alert values within minutes of test completion! As an added bonus, you can access ChildLink, Laboratory Service's secure online access center to tests, lab services and results anytime day or night! If you would like more information on STAT testing in your area or ChildLink, contact Laboratory Client Services at (800) 934-6575.

Laboratory Service Centers that Perform STAT Testing:

Canal Winchester *Close To HomeSM* Center
East Broad *Close To HomeSM* Center
Lewis Center *Close To HomeSM* Center
Springfield *Close To HomeSM* Center
Dublin *Close To HomeSM* Center
Hilliard *Close To HomeSM* Center
Marysville *Close To HomeSM* Center
Westerville *Close To HomeSM* Center

Children's Hospital Outpatient Reference Laboratory Sample Collection Supplies

Providing sample collection supplies is part of the service that we provide to our clients. This service allows the client to have pediatric collection devices and containers that provide the collector with age-appropriate supplies. In many circumstances, the microtainer blood collection tubes are used for minimal sample collections for multiple tests.

Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH) supplies must be used only for those tests that are submitted to our facility for testing. They should not be used to perform testing in the office, such as performing urine dipsticks, and they should not be used to send lab tests to other testing facilities.

The Stark II Final Rule states: "Labs are allowed to give physician clients single use needles, vials and specimen cups based on the number of specimens referred". The OIG Fraud Alert states: "Whenever a laboratory offers or gives to a source of referrals anything of value not paid for at fair market value, the inference may be made that the thing of value is offered to induce the referral of business" 59 Fed. Reg. 65377 (October 1994). **Legally, all lab tests collected in NCH containers must be referred to NCH for testing, and therefore, we are monitoring the number of supplies given to the physician office with the number of samples being referred to us for testing.** We appreciate your understanding as we work with your office staff to provide appropriate and adequate supplies.

Positive Patient Identification:

The #1 JCAHO National Patient Safety Goal is to improve the accuracy of patient identification by using **TWO** identifiers. Therefore, it is extremely critical that all samples sent for testing are positively identified and accurately labeled. A sample label should always include the following **TWO** identifiers:

1. **Patient's full legal name**
2. **One of the following second identifiers:**
 - Date of Birth
 - Child's Medical Record Number
 - Requisition Barcode Label
 - Other unique test requisition number.

Patient Name:
DOB/MRN#:
Date: _____ Time: _____
Phleb ID:

The collection date, collection time and the collector's full name can be on either the sample label or test requisition.



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How can Nationwide Children's Laboratory Services help your practice?

If you would like to become a client or learn more information about Nationwide Children's Laboratory Services, contact us at (800) 934-6575 or visit our website at **NationwideChildrens.org/Lab**. Would you like to receive the Nationwide Children's Laboratory Services Newsletter electronically? Please e-mail us at **LaboratoryServices@NationwideChildrens.org** and let us know!

Lab Account Representatives are available via email to assist with any questions or concerns.

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