Steve Sisolak
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.

Lisa Sherych
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam, Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

STANDING ORDER FOR COVID-19 TESTING

Purpose: This standing order is issued by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Department of Health Services. This standing order authorizes any health care provider or trained personnel acting within their scope of practice at a health care facility or medically supervised COVID-19 testing unit in the State of Nevada (heretofore referred to as "**Provider**") to collect and submit for laboratory analysis specimens to be tested using a SARS CoV-2 diagnostic test (antigen, serology or molecular-based) for any individual in accordance with the conditions of this order.

Standing Orders Authorization: This standing order is issued pursuant to the Governor's Declaration of State of Emergency on March 12, 2020, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 414, which directs state agencies to "save lives, protect property, and protect the health and safety of persons in this state".

This standing order shall remain in effect until the state of emergency declared on March 12, 2020 is terminated or unless renewed by a subsequent Directive promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency to facilitate the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This document was updated on January 11, 2021.

PATIENT ELIGIBILITY

The following criteria are required for the **Provider** to collect a specimen for SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic testing by this standing order:

Individual who is concerned that he or she has been exposed to and infected with COVID-19

AND

Individual who has signed a consent and voluntary isolation agreement (or parent/guardian, if patient cannot legally consent).

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND TESTING

The **Provider** may collect an appropriate specimen and order a SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (molecular-based, serology or antigen) approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), authorized by the FDA through an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).[i]

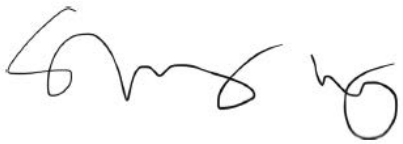
A. The **Provider** must follow appropriate preparations to collect a specimen:
   1. Ensure correct testing materials according to the manufacturer's instructions and/or the laboratory that will be performing the test.
   2. Ensure appropriate use of personal protective equipment for testing staff to collect the specimen and or perform the test, including gloves, gowns, N95 respirator (or surgical mask if not available) , and eye protection (goggles or face shield) and that other appropriate infection control measures are used.

B. The **Provider** must adhere to the following instructions when collecting specimens:
   1. Specimens must be collected by a licensed health care provider or other trained personnel acting within their scope of practice. The Provider must follow manufacturer's-specific and/or laboratory-specific instructions for specimen collection.

2. The **Provider** must follow CDC Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens for COVID-19, as amended and supplemented.[ii]
3. The **Provider** must ensure that laboratories conducting SARS C0V-2 diagnostic tests on the specimens being collected under this Order report test results to patients and DPBH as soon as practicable, if possible, on the same day and no later than one business day after completion of the test.
4. The Provider must collect complete information in the individual consistent with DPBH guidance.

FOLLOW-UP AND REPORTING REQUIRMENTS

1. Test results should be reported to the patient within 48 hours of the testing unit's receipt of the test result.
2. A positive result requires continued in-home isolation per local health department recommendations.
3. All COVID-19 laboratory test results are required to be reported to the DPBH as required under NRS 441A.150 NRS 441A.150. High-volume laboratories performing PCR testing should report results through the electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) system. The DPBH, Office of Public Health Investigation and Epidemiology (OPHIE) team will assist in onboarding laboratories into the ELR system and can be contacted at dpbhelronboarding@health.nv.gov. Nevada is not currently onboarding laboratories or facilities that exclusively perform antigen or at-home testing for ELR . To report **antigen only or at-home** testing, you should submit all positive and negative results within 24 hours of analysis via email to COVIDepi@health.nv.gov. Results should be submitted through this Excel Reporting Template. Reporting questions can be sent to dpbhepi@health.nv.gov.



Shaheen Ali, M.D.
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

---

[i] https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/vitro-diagnostics-euas
[ii] https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html