COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Messenger

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Health Laboratories in California

Coronavirus (sars-Cov2 virus / COVID-19) Testing at California Public Health Laboratories

If your laboratory is contacted regarding a possible case of Coronavirus-sars Cov2 infection (for the illness called COVID-19), please direct the party to call your local public health department:

- San Luis Obispo County Public Health: (805) 781-5500
- Santa Barbara County Public Health: (805) 681-5280
- Ventura County Public Health: (805) 981-5201

Public Health authorities will conduct an investigation of the patient and determine if the case warrants testing for the Corona-sars-Cov2 virus.

Currently in California, the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Laboratory, Ventura County Public Health Laboratory, the state Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) and 19 other local public health laboratories either are or very soon will be testing for the Corona-sars-Cov2 virus. The laboratories are using a reverse transcription PCR test developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Positive results obtained at local public health laboratories will be confirmed by testing at the CDC.

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Laboratory is not currently performing the test, but is receiving testing support from neighboring public health laboratories in Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties.

If a person under investigation (PUI) is to be tested, specimens should include a nasopharyngeal swab and a throat swab in separate viral transport medium (VTM) tubes. Specimens should be sent to your local public health department laboratory.

Find detailed specimen collection instructions at:
www.slocounty.ca.gov/Corona-sars-Cov2-PCR

Questions?
Please contact the Laboratory Director at 805-781-5512 or
jbeebe@co.slo.ca.us.