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## Covid-19 Specimen Collection and Transport

Across the NM system, specimens being tested for SARS-CoV-2 (i.e. suspected Covid-19) are evaluated using various analytical platforms. The platform used depends upon the patient population being tested. Platforms have different specimen transport requirements.

- Specimens that are being processed on in-house DMB PCR, Cepheid, and BD Max instrumentation, or being sent out to an external reference lab like Quest or Viracor are collected on a nasopharyngeal (NP) swab and transported in a tube with viral transport medium (VTM).
- Specimens that are being processed on Abbott ID Now (i.e. Abbott Alere) are collected on a dry nasopharyngeal (NP) swab and transported in an empty tube.
  - The head of the NP swab should be placed into a dry, additive-free tube.

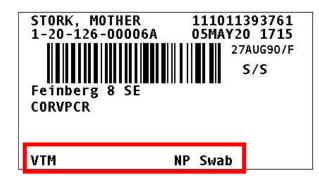
The lab label, which prints prior to sample collection, provides important information about specimen collection and transport. Specimens that require VTM display 'VTM' on the lab label. Specimens that require a dry, empty tube for transport will display 'Dry Tube' on the lab label.

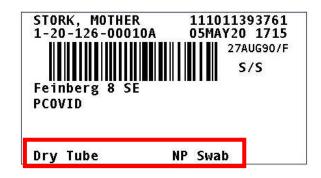
Because we use different lab information systems across NM, labels appear differently in the various regions:

- Central and North use PathNet,
- West uses MLab, and
- Northwest uses Epic Beaker.

Shown below are examples of lab labels as they will print within our various regions.

## CENTRAL AND NORTH





## WEST

CDHORDERS, AMY 37Y F 10/12/1982 COVID DCH

200014174581

NM9201270028

1011393171 05/06/20 10:52 CDHORDERS, AMY

9201270028

RE COVNMH R

10/12/1982

VTM

CDHORDERS, AMY 37Y F 10/12/1982 COVID DCH

200014174581

ML 700006120

1011393171 05/06/20 10:58 CDHORDERS, AMY

700006120

MI NOWCOVIR

10/12/1982 COVID DCH

DRYTUBE

## **NORTHWEST**

Beaker, Bebe 1 yr F 1/1/2019

20MH-127M00001 RAPID COVID MH546 02 5/6/20 0857

111011397471

2000142037-00

1000020759 VTM NP Swab Routine Nasopharynx

Beaker, Bebe 1 yr F 1/1/2019



20MH-127M00002 COVID ALERE MH546 02 5/6/20 0857

111011397471 2000142037-00

> INST-10009972 Dry Tube NP Swab Routine Nasopharynx

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