



Department of Health

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DATE: September 21, 2020
TO: All Laboratories Supporting SAR-CoV-2 Testing
FROM: New York State Department of Health (Department)

**Health Advisory: Requirement for ALL Laboratories to Report Results for SARS-CoV-2,
including all Molecular, Antigen, and Serological Tests
Ensuring Complete Reporting of Patient Demographics**

As the number of available tests for COVID-19 infection continues to increase, it is essential that the Department receive complete, accurate and timely reporting of results for all SARS-CoV-2 testing conducted for New York patients. Efforts to successfully reopen businesses, schools, and other facilities rely upon State and local public health officials having full access to data that guides critical disease control interventions.

On September 9, 2020, Executive Order 202.61 was issued requiring the following:

1. All professionals authorized to order or administer a test for COVID-19 to obtain and all clinical laboratories to collect the following information when accepting specimens for COVID-19 testing:
 - Whether the patient attends school and, if so, where the patient attends school.
 - The patient's place of employment, if applicable, including whether the patient works or volunteers in an elementary, secondary school, or post-secondary school, and the name of such school.
 - The patient's local address, if different from permanent address.
2. All offices registered with the Department of Health as a physician office laboratory (POL) or conducting point of care (POC tests, must collect the information above and immediately report (within 3 hours of receiving results) the results of COVID-19 testing through ECLRS.
3. All clinical labs and POLs or healthcare providers conducting POC influenza testing **must report influenza test results immediately** (within 3 hours of receiving results) through ECLRS.

These requirements are currently in effect, as are previous requirements to include race/ethnicity, occupation, and place of employment, and such requirements apply to all forms of SARS-CoV-2 testing, including POC tests, rapid tests, and tests performed by POL.

All information and test results must be reported electronically through ECLRS. Technical instructions on how to report new data elements will be distributed to each facility's designated point of contact for ECLRS.

Failure to submit such information may result in penalties as specified in Sections 12, 12-b and 578 of the Public Health Law, including but not limited to civil penalties of up to \$2,000 per day.

Please contact (866) 325–7743 or eclrs@health.state.ny.us with any technical questions regarding the reporting of test results.

We appreciate all the support, dedication, and effort to date from our laboratory partners across the state and country.