



## UPDATE: COVID-19 SARS-COV-2 PCR TESTING

Effective January 2021, Ascend is performing SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing in-house. Ascend uses the SARS-CoV-2 assay from Abbott Laboratories, utilizing their Alinity m<sup>®</sup> instrument.

The Alinity m SARS-CoV-2 assay is a real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-qPCR) test intended for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in nasal swabs. This assay is authorized by FDA under the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).

<b>COVID-19 SARS-CoV-2 PCR</b>	
<b>Specimen</b>	Anterior Nares Swab 
<b>Container Type</b>	Universal Transport Media  Align label towards bottom of tube
<b>Stability (2-8°C)</b>	2 days
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	1-2 days
<b>Methodology</b>	Real-Time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-qPCR)
<b>Reference Range</b>	Negative
<b>Transport Temperature</b>	Refrigerate 2-8°C
<b>CPT Code</b>	87635 or HCPCS U00004/U0005

### Notes/Action Required:

- To order swab collection kits, call Client Services.
- Place each specimen in a separate biohazard transport bag and ship with your refrigerated Ascend specimens.
- Refer to [Ascend Reference Manual](#) for proper collection, packaging/shipping instructions.
- Due to short stability, do not collect on Saturdays.
- Expected turnaround time is 1-2 days after receipt (may be impacted due to demand).
- If your EMR requires mapping of this result, please provide the following interface codes:
  - Specimen Source: 1730-SRC2
  - SARS-CoV-2 RNA, QL: 1729-CVPC1

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at 800.800.5655, Option 1