

**Capitol Area Enhanced Influenza Case Finding Project
October 1, 2009 - April 30, 2010**

The Michigan Department of Community Health Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) is providing laboratory support for an enhanced Influenza case finding study to assess the impact of severe disease that may be associated with the resurgence of 2009 Novel H1 Influenza in the Tri-county Capitol Area (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties). The BOL is asking for you to assist your ICP in identifying cases of influenza among hospitalized residents of this area and ascertain available laboratory results. The BOL will provide testing for those cases in which PCR results, including subtyping of Influenza A strains, is not available, but we will need your help to identify residual specimens or to handle additional specimens that your ICP may collect, and to forward all these specimens to the BOL. Results from all testing done at the BOL will be returned to you via our Laboratory Information System. The MDCH Bureau of Epidemiology has been in contact with your ICP concerning this project, but we wanted to assure our clinical laboratory colleagues were fully aware of what the study entails. You can provide guidance to your ICP on appropriate specimens and how to handle them, as well as identifying previously collected specimens you may have on hand in the lab. We will provide any specimen collection/transport kits needed, and cover shipping costs of specimens to the BOL.

Specimens approved for our 2009 Novel Influenza PCR test include:

- NP Swab in VTM or PBS
- Nasal swab in VTM or PBS
- Dual NP/OP swabs in VTM or PBS
- Nasal aspirates
- Viral Isolates

For questions regarding this study, please contact Patty Clark at 517-335-8102 or by email at ClarkP@michigan.gov

For samples that are to be tested at the BOL, please write "EIPL" on the test request form under "Indicate Test Reason Below."

Test request forms can be found on our web page at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DCH-0583TEST_REQUEST_7587_7.pdf

Specimen collection kits are available by faxing in a request for Unit 45 to 517-335-9039.

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dch-0568_7396_7.pdf