

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Shared Health hospital laboratories Will No Longer Telephone Nursing Units (Inpatients and ER Admits) With Positive SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Test Results**December 1, 2024****Background Information:**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Shared Health laboratories generating a positive test for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) by GeneXpert® telephoned nursing units (inpatients and ER admits) with the positive test result.

Update:

Starting December 1, 2024, Shared Health hospital laboratories will no longer telephone nursing units (inpatients and ER admits) with positive SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) test results in order to bring SARS-CoV-2 result reporting in-line with influenza A, influenza B, and RSV reporting. Nursing units are expected to review results for nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs submitted on symptomatic patients for the SARS-CoV-2 result as well as the results for influenza A, influenza B and RSV included in the GeneXpert® Quadruplex (SARS-CoV-2/Influenza A & B/RSV) PCR test.

Shared Health hospital laboratories currently provide GeneXpert® Quadruplex testing following the current provincial algorithm (<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-testing-table.pdf>).

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