



Dynacare Service Announcement – 2019-nCoV

January 24, 2020

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an emerging pathogen of global public health significance. If you are either considering a diagnosis of 2019-nCoV, or if you are seeking to rule out 2019-nCoV in a patient, please first contact your local public health unit or provincial health department for consultation.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has released criteria to assess the patient for consistent symptoms and stated risk factors (see link below). If your patient is suspected of being infected with 2019-nCoV, contact your provincial health laboratory or infectious disease specialist for further instruction (contact information provided below). Patients should be evaluated and discussed with public health departments on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g. uncertain travel or exposure). Specimens from the patient for diagnostic testing for 2019-nCoV would then be collected and sent by you to a testing laboratory as directed by the public health laboratory.

- Dynacare does not collect or process specimens from patients confirmed to have or suspected of having 2019-nCoV.
- Dynacare does not test specimens to rule out 2019-nCoV.
- Do not submit specimens to Dynacare for any testing from patients suspected of 2019-nCoV until 2019-nCoV has been ruled out by laboratory testing conducted at a reference laboratory.
- Do not send patients suspected for 2019-nCoV to Dynacare for specimen collection until 2019-nCoV has been ruled out by laboratory testing conducted at a reference laboratory.

No commercial test is currently available for 2019-nCoV and this virus cannot be detected using any test currently available at Dynacare.

For 2019-nCoV updates and case finding, visit the PHAC website at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

Provincial infection control or public health laboratory for management of persons under investigation:

- Ontario: 866.212.2272
- Manitoba: 204.787.2071
- Quebec: 514.528.2400