



# Newfoundland & Labrador

## PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY NETWORK

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### MEMORANDUM

**FROM: NL PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY**  
**TO: ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**RE: GENERAL RESPIRATORY TESTING**  
**DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

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Due to the high volume of COVID-19 testing and operational limitations at the Public Health Microbiology Laboratory (PHML), testing of all respiratory specimens have been limited to using COVID-19 only assays to increase COVID-19 testing capacity and efficiency.

If full respiratory panel testing is needed for outbreak management or certain cases, this must be reviewed by the Medical Officer of Health/CDC who will then inform the Microbiologist on Call (MOC) to test for respiratory pathogens in addition to COVID19.

Laboratory related questions can be directed to the Microbiologist on Call through hospital locating at 709-777-6300 or [microbiologistoncall@easternhealth.ca](mailto:microbiologistoncall@easternhealth.ca).

Questions related to this memorandum can be directed to the PHML Director's Office at 709-777-7233 or [melissa.skinner@easternhealth.ca](mailto:melissa.skinner@easternhealth.ca).

