
Provider Information Notice
SARS-CoV-2 -Reporting Updates
April 13, 2021

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) expects that many CLIA-certified laboratories qualified to perform high complexity testing are eligible to test for SARS-CoV-2, is providing the following information to address laboratory reporting concerns. This document includes updated information on the requirement for reporting negative results for SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests.

- Any laboratories approved to test for SARS-CoV-2 must report **all positive and non-positive (negative, indeterminate, and specimen unsatisfactory) test results** from nucleic acid amplification tests (e.g., PCR) and antibody/serology tests for SARS-CoV-2 through the CalREDIE Electronic Laboratory Reporting system (ELR) **within eight hours** from the time the laboratory notifies the health care provider or other person authorized to receive the report.
- Any laboratories conducting SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing must report all positive test results through the CalREDIE Electronic Laboratory Reporting system (ELR) **within eight hours** from the time the laboratory notifies the health care provider or other person authorized to receive the report.
 - Reporting of non-positive (negative, indeterminate, and specimen unsatisfactory) antigen test results through the CalREDIE Electronic Laboratory Reporting system (ELR) is encouraged, but not required.
 - Laboratories conducting SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing that are not reporting non-positive antigen test results through the CalREDIE Electronic Laboratory Reporting system (ELR) must report aggregate test results daily via the Daily Antigen Survey. Information on the survey is available here: [How to Complete the Daily Antigen Survey \(ca.gov\) \(PDF\)](#)
- Please note that laboratories no longer need to report SARS-CoV-2 results by telephone within one hour.

- Laboratories must report data on patients' **race and ethnicity** for all COVID-19 test results. Please revise your requisition forms to include this information, and work with the healthcare providers you serve to ensure that demographic information is collected during patient intake so that you can include it when you report results through the CaIREDIE system.
- For more information about ELR, please visit the [CDPH CaIREDIE ELR webpage](#).
- Please use the encoding guidelines for ELR messages for SARS-CoV-2. The LOINC codes are pre-release codes, developed for special use. You can find them, and check for future updates, at the [LOINC website](#).
- In addition, please use the following SNOMED codes:
 - 260373001 Detected
 - 260415000 Not detected
 - 419984006 Inconclusive
 - 125154007 Specimen unsatisfactory

Please visit our website for more information on SARS-CoV-2 at www.sbcphd.org

Healthy people, healthy community, healthy environment.