

CLINICAL SPECIMENS TO BE COLLECTED FROM SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS

Category	Test	Type of sample	Timing	Storage and transportation
Symptomatic patient	RT-PCR	Lower respiratory tract specimen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sputum - Aspirate - Lavage Upper respiratory tract specimen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs - Nasopharyngeal wash / nasopharyngeal aspirate 	Collect on presentation.	<p>If the specimen will reach the laboratory in less than 72 hours, store and transport at 4°C.</p> <p>If the specimen will reach the laboratory in more than 72 hours, store at -80°C and transport on dry ice.</p>
	Serology	Serum	Collect at Day 5-8 or upon discharge from hospital.	As above

Note: For other routine testing, should be carried out using standard precautions