FACT SHEET FOR PATIENTS
Hologic, Inc.
Aptima SARS-CoV-2/Flu assay

Updated: March 23, 2022

You are being given this Fact Sheet because your sample(s) was tested for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), influenza A, and/or influenza B using the Aptima SARS-CoV-2/Flu assay.

This Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of using this test for the diagnosis of COVID-19 and/or influenza. After reading this Fact Sheet, if you have questions or would like to discuss the information provided, please talk to your healthcare provider.

For the most up to date information on COVID-19 please visit the CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) webpage: https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19

For the most up to date information on Influenza, please visit the CDC Influenza webpage: https://www.cdc.gov/flu

What is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus which is a new virus in humans causing a contagious respiratory illness. COVID-19 can present with a mild to severe illness, although some people infected with COVID-19 may have no symptoms at all. Older adults and people of any age who have underlying medical conditions have a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Serious outcomes of COVID-19 include hospitalization and death. The SARS-CoV-2 virus can be spread to others not just while one is sick, but even before a person shows signs or symptoms of being sick (e.g., fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, etc.). A full list of symptoms of COVID-19 can be found at the following link: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html.

What is Influenza?
Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. Influenza viruses can cause mild to severe illness. Serious outcomes of the flu can result in hospitalization or death. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain underlying health conditions, are at higher risk for serious flu complications. There are two main types of influenza viruses: types A and B. Both type A and B influenza viruses regularly spread in people, and are responsible for seasonal flu each year. Influenza viruses can be spread to others before and after a person shows signs and symptoms of being sick.

What is the Aptima SARS-CoV-2/Flu assay?
The test is designed to simultaneously detect three types of viruses: two types that cause influenza (type A and type B) and the virus that causes COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) in nasopharyngeal and anterior nasal swabs specimens.

Why was my sample tested?
You were tested because your healthcare provider believes you may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 based on your signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing), and/or because:

- You live in or have recently traveled to a place where transmission of COVID-19 is known to occur; or
- You have been in close contact with an individual suspected of or confirmed to have COVID-19.

Your samples will help your doctor determine if you have the virus that causes COVID-19 or if another respiratory virus may be the cause.

Where can I go for updates and more information? The most up-to-date information on COVID-19 is available at the CDC General webpage: https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19. In addition, please also contact your healthcare provider with any questions/concerns.
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Is this test FDA-approved or cleared?
No. This test is not yet approved or cleared by the United States FDA but it has been issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). FDA may issue an EUA when certain criteria are met, which includes that there are no adequate, approved, available alternatives. The EUA for this test is supported by the Secretary of Health and Human Service’s (HHS’s) declaration that circumstances exist to justify the emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for the detection and/or diagnosis of the virus that causes COVID-19. This EUA will remain in effect (meaning this test can be used) for the duration of the COVID-19 declaration justifying the emergency use of in vitro diagnostics, unless it is terminated or revoked by FDA (after which the test may no longer be used).

What are the approved alternatives?
There are approved/cleared influenza tests. Any tests that have received full marketing status (i.e., cleared, approved), as opposed to an EUA, by FDA can be found by searching the medical device databases here: https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/device-advicecomprehensive-regulatory-assistance/medical-devicedatabases. A cleared or approved test should be used instead of a test made available under an EUA, when appropriate and available. FDA has issued EUAs for other tests that can be found at: https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-andresponse/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policyframework/emergency-use-authorization.

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