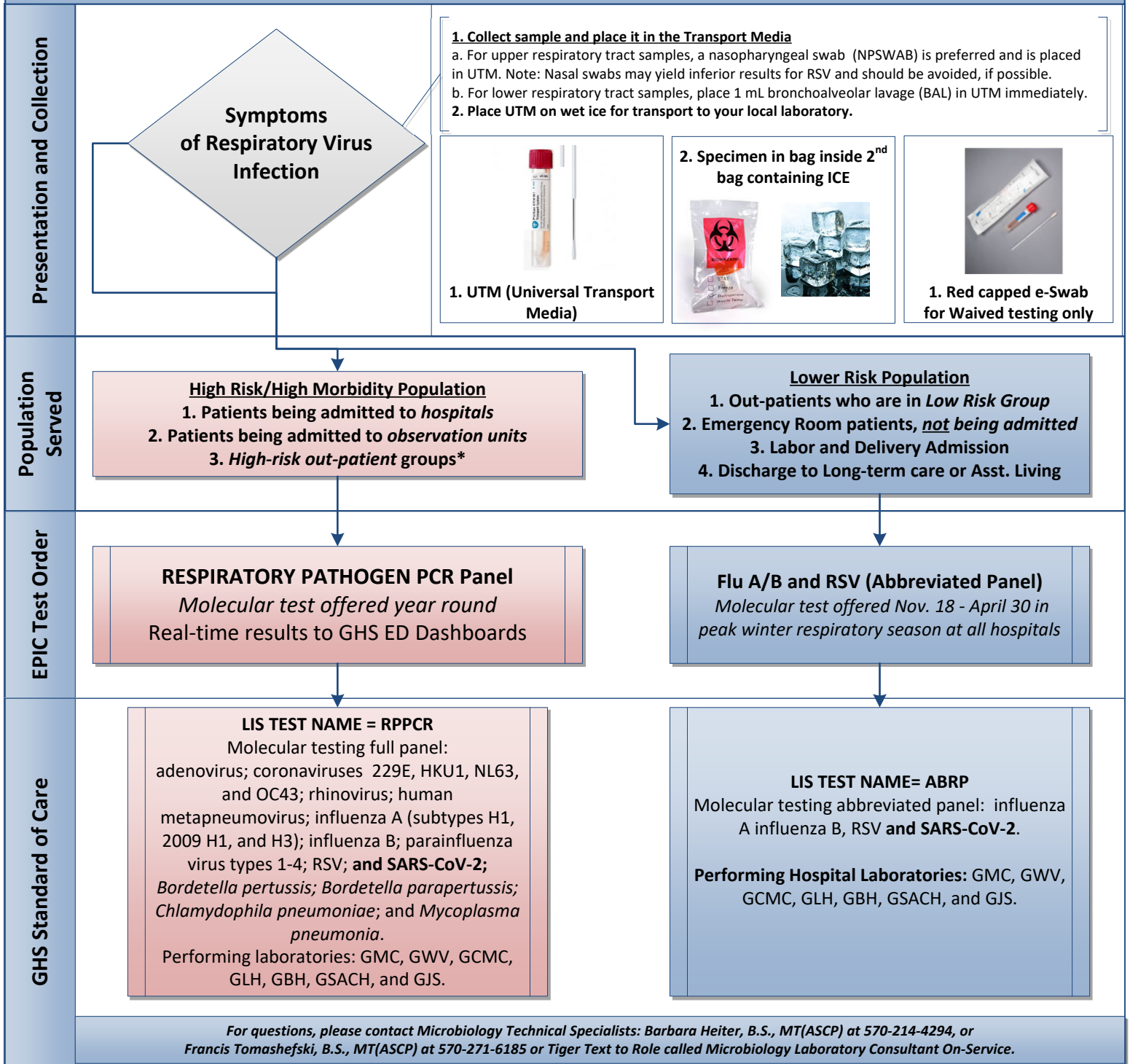


2020-2021 Winter Respiratory Pathogen Testing Algorithm

Geisinger Medical Laboratories, Microbial Diagnostics

Order UTM with flocked swab from GHS Supply Chain or via your GML Customer Care Representative



***Note: Exceptions to algorithm can occur after a laboratory waiver is received (Tiger Text to Microbiology Laboratory Consultant)**
During May 1- Oct 31: There is a rare chance of detecting influenza or RSV; for diagnostic purposes, the full molecular panel is standard.
Geisinger Community Care may offer rapid influenza testing by molecular methods, starting Jan. 2021..

*** Groups at high risk for influenza complications per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Children <2 years* and Adults ≥65 years of age
 Persons with chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, hematologic (including sickle cell disease), metabolic (including diabetes mellitus), neurologic, neuromuscular, and neurodevelopmental disorders (including disorders of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerve and muscle such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, stroke, intellectual disability [mental retardation], moderate to severe developmental delay, muscular dystrophy, or spinal cord injury)Immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus)
 Women who are pregnant or postpartum (within two weeks after delivery)
 Children <19 years of age and receiving long-term aspirin therapy
 Native Americans and Alaskan Natives
 Morbidly obese (body mass index [BMI] ≥40 for adults or BMI >2.33 standard deviations above the mean for children)
 Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities*

Although all children <5 years of age are considered to be at higher risk for complications of influenza, the highest risk is for those <2 years of age, with the highest hospitalization and death rates among infants <6 months of age.
 Adapted from: *Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC. Prevention and control of seasonal influenza with vaccines. MMWR Recomm Rep 2013; 62:1.*

