



**#50014 VIRUS CULTURE, RESPIRATORY**  
**RE: VIRAL CULTURE FOR H1N1 (SWINE) INFLUENZA UPDATE**

Mayo Medical Laboratories has seen a dramatic increase in orders for viral culture from respiratory sites. While traditional viral culture is a means of detecting respiratory viruses, it is not recommended as a diagnostic test for novel H1N1 (Swine) Influenza as it is not a rapid test procedure and may require nine days or more before results are reported.

The test of choice for identification of all Influenza viruses, including the novel H1N1 strain, is the **Influenza Virus Type A and Type B RNA by Rapid PCR (#88544/#800167)**. A positive result with this assay for Influenza Type A will indicate that influenza A is present in the sample, but will not differentiate novel H1N1 (Swine) influenza from human strains of the virus.

QUESTIONS:

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