Specimen Requirements FOR MOLECULAR PCR

ALWAYS include white and yellow requisition copies in the specimen bag's pouch pocket (keep pink copy for your records). If you use an EMR, please print out a copy of the e-requisition and include it with each specimen. When labeling specimen, always include two forms of patient identifiers – patient's name and patient's Date of Birth (D.O.B.) and/or Social Security number. Patient's specimen must be labeled in the presence of the patient (or patient's representative).

A leaking container can compromise the fixation and integrity or stability of the specimen.

Covid-19 by PCR (NASAL)

SPECIMEN: **Nasal Swab (collected in a sterile, leak-proof 1ml tube)**

TRANSPORT: Place the swab inside the tube and seal lid tightly and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All tubes must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Swab must be present in tube. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen with ice pack to the laboratory or store specimen at 2 – 8°C up to 72 hours and transport with ice pack**.

Covid-19 by PCR (SALIVA)

SPECIMEN: **Saliva (collected in a sterile, leak-proof container)**

TRANSPORT: Submit at least 1 – 1.5 ml of saliva in the provided leak-proof container and seal lid tightly. Containers should be labeled with patient's name, D.O.B. or Social Security number, location of specimen and physician who performed procedure. Place container into Acupath specimen bag, and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen to the laboratory and can be stored at room temperature up to 7 days.**

Covid-19 by PCR, Flu A and Flu B by PCR

SPECIMEN: **Nasal Swab (collected in a sterile, leak-proof 1ml tube)**
TRANSPORT: Place the swab inside the tube and seal lid tightly and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All tubes must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Swab must be present in tube. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen with ice pack to the laboratory and can be stored at 2 – 8°C up to 7 days.**

Gastrointestinal Pathogen (GI) by PCR

SPECIMEN: Stool (collected in a sterile, leak-proof container with Cary Blair stool culture transport medium)

TRANSPORT: Submit enough specimen using the collection spoon until the liquid reaches the **ARROW** on the label of the container. Seal lid tightly and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All containers must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Spoon must be present in tube. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. Use a cold pack for transport. Make sure cold pack is not in direct contact with specimen. **Immediately transport specimen with ice pack to the laboratory and can be stored at 2 – 8°C up to 4 days.**

RSV by PCR, Flu A and Flu B by PCR

SPECIMEN: **Nasal Swab (collected in a sterile, leak-proof 1ml tube)**

TRANSPORT: Place the swab inside the tube and seal lid tightly and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All tubes must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Swab must be present in tube. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen with ice pack to the laboratory and can be stored at 2 – 8°C up to 7 days.**

Toenail Fungal by PCR

SPECIMEN: **Toenail (collected in a sterile, specimen bag)**

TRANSPORT: Collect a **DRY** nail, devoid of any polish or lotion. Clip as much nail as possible and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All specimen bags should be labeled with patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen to the laboratory and can be stored at room temperature up to 30 days.**

Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) by PCR

SPECIMEN: **Urine (collected in a sterile, urine cup, then transferred to a gray top, preservative tube)**

TRANSPORT: Collect urine in the sterile cup and transfer the urine into the gray top tube and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All gray top tubes should be labeled with patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Insert ALL paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen with ice pack to the laboratory and can be stored at 2 – 8°C up to 72 hours.**

Wound Panel by PCR

SPECIMEN: **Swab wound location (collected in a sterile, leak-proof container)**

TRANSPORT: Place the swab inside the container and seal lid tightly and place in the Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. All containers must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. Swab must be present in container. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. **Immediately transport specimen to the laboratory and can be stored at room temperature up to 72 hours.**

28 S. Terminal Drive, Plainview, NY 11803 • Toll Free: 1-888-ACUPATH (228-7284) • info@acupath.com • www.acupath.com