

DOH 420-398 May 2022

Protocol for Labs Submitting SARS-CoV-2 Specimens for Sequencing

This protocol only applies for forwarding previously positive specimens.

**This document is protocol intended for Laboratories to aid in submitting specimens for sequencing.**

If you need to collect and submit a new specimen for both diagnostic testing and sequencing, you must use the PHL’s QRP submission process. All specimens that test positive at the WA PHL with Ct values <30 will automatically be sequenced.

The following specimen types are acceptable for submission for sequencing:

* RNA extract – minimum 10 μL **(preferred)**
* Nasal swab, nasopharyngeal swab, or mid-turbinate swab in VTM/UTM or transport medium (at minimum 800 μL)
* Lower respiratory tract fluid (BAL, tracheal aspirate, or sputum) – if intubated

**For all specimen types, all CT values must be <30**

If your lab would like to submit specimens on a routine basis for surveillance to PHL please:

* Hold specimens and submit once per week as a batch
* PHL would like to receive specimens for sequencing on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday
* All specimen types should be frozen at <-70 °C and shipped on dry ice

Please use the link below to enter information for each specimen and generate a pdf submission form.

[https://redcap.link/sequencesubmission](https://redcap.doh.wa.gov/surveys/?s=98WXXNKAJP)

* Complete one form per specimen
* Print and send the submission form with each specimen
* Choose “Sentinel Surveillance” on the “For which of the below options has sequencing been requested?” question if you are sending in all positives or a random selection of positives from your laboratory

**Important Note:** You will not receive reports back from specimens that have been sequenced. Aggregated results will be available on the [sequencing report](https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/420-316-SequencingAndVariantsReport.pdf), which is updated weekly.

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email [doh.information@doh.wa.gov](mailto:doh.information@doh.wa.gov).