



ST VINCENT'S  
PATHOLOGY

A SERVICE OF ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL MELBOURNE

# Memo

**From:** Dr Darren Jardine  
**cc:** Dr Amy Crowe  
**Date:** 16/03/2020  
**Re:** Molecular respiratory testing, including COVID 19

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**Effective 23/3/2020 and in response to the COVID19 pandemic St Vincent's Pathology will be making changes to its Molecular Respiratory testing due to increased demand for both Influenza and COVID19 testing. This changes will remain in place during the course of the pandemic.**

- We will perform a respiratory screening test for Influenza A, Influenza B, RSV and COVID19. This provides the laboratory with greater capacity for testing.
- We will perform the full 14 pathogen test **ONLY** if infection with bacterial pathogens such as Bordetella or Mycoplasma is suspected. Requests must be clearly marked as such or these samples will only be tested by the above screening assay. The full 14 pathogen test will be performed twice a week. (currently planned for Tuesdays and Fridays)
- Legionella testing: Urinary antigen testing will be the only test performed during the pandemic. Please forward a urine sample for testing if Legionella infection is suspected.

Please call 1800 444 511 for **COVID19** results. The Microbiology laboratory should not be contacted directly for results during this time.