

COVID-19 TESTING AND SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

Test Method	<p>Screening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-gene by RT PCR <p>Confirmation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RdRP-gene by RT PCR <p>Other tests available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N-gene by RT PCR Orf1b-gene by RT PCR Virus isolation Whole genome sequencing
Specimen Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower respiratory tract samples (sputum, ET excretions, BAL) – preferred sample type Swab in VTM (nose and throat) – must scrape pharynx Post-mortem samples – contact lab to discuss beforehand
Turnaround Time	Next day
Shipping Requirements	<p>Biological Substance Category B (UN3373) IATA Packaging Instructions 650</p> <p>Paperwork to be on the outside of the secondary packaging (biobottle)</p>
Ship Sample to	<p>ESR 66 Ward Street Wallaceville Upper Hutt 5018</p>
Sample request form	Click here
Laboratory Contact	04 529 0635

Prior notification to the virology laboratory on virology@esr.cri.nz and/or **04 529 0635** or **027 326 2780** that samples have been sent.

For weekend deliveries, please call **027 326 2780** or alternatively **0800 437 734**. Please provide the tracking number of the delivery and the phone number of the courier driver to arrange for pickup.