

B. Laboratory Diagnostics Overview

Laboratory Diagnostics provides guidance on the protocol for use of diagnostic tests to detect, characterize, and monitor novel subtypes of influenza and provides laboratory support for surveillance. This section comprises:

- An overview of current laboratory surveillance
- Guidance and forms for lab submissions, including collection timing, specimen handling and transport
- Reduction in the number of samples needed to evaluate circulating flu viruses
- Notification of elimination of specific NJ Department of Health and Senior Services lab services based upon testing importance and available resources