



Louisiana Health Alert Message 23-21 Updated COVID-19 Reporting Guidance

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Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

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Updated COVID-19 Reporting Guidance

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) is in the process of updating its rules concerning COVID-19 reporting requirements to discontinue manual reporting of COVID-19 test results. This update will limit required reporting to COVID-19 test results that are transmitted to LDH via HL7 messaging. While the rule-making process is being completed, LDH is waiving reporting requirements of COVID-19 results using phone, fax, manual data entry, or manual file upload.

If you are unsure if your facility has an HL7 electronic laboratory messaging feed with LDH, please contact ELR@la.gov.

Facilities that do not have an HL7 electronic laboratory messaging feed can still voluntarily contribute to the Louisiana laboratory respiratory virus surveillance program. This program is made up of a network of hospital and clinic-based laboratories performing rapid (antigen) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV. Aggregate weekly test results are then submitted in an online form. If your facility is able to contribute data to this program, reporting can be done using this link: [2023-2024 Viral Respiratory Diseases Weekly Lab Reporting](#).

In addition to laboratory result reporting, the following conditions should be reported to LDH using a secure online portal at the following link: [LDH COVID-19 Priority Events Portal](#).

- Pediatric respiratory virus-associated mortality: All deaths occurring in individuals <18 years old who have a positive COVID-19, RSV, or influenza lab result (antigen or PCR).
- Pediatric hospitalizations: Hospitalizations in individuals <21 years old who have a positive COVID-19 lab result (antigen, PCR, or antibody). This includes any suspected cases of MIS-C (multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children).