



Sputum is superior to nasal swabs for RT-PCR COVID-19 detection results¹

Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	Sputum	Nasal swabs	Fibrobronchoscope brush biopsy	Pharyngeal swabs
93%	72%	63%	46%	32%
PCR DETECTION RATE				

A March 11, 2020 JAMA research letter¹ indicates that:

Sputum samples provide better detection results than nasal or pharyngeal swab samples.

Patients may have higher viral shedding patterns at different collection sites, with sputum collection being the most consistent sample method after bronchoalveolar lavage.

About the study: 1070 specimens were collected from 205 patients with COVID-19 from 3 hospitals in the Hubei and Shandong provinces in Beijing, China, from January 1 through February 17, 2020. Mean age 44 years, 68% male. Most patients presented with fever, dry cough, and fatigue; 19% of patients had severe illness.

1. Wang W, Xu Y, Gao R, et al. Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in Different Types of Clinical Specimens. JAMA. Published online March 11, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.3786

2. Data on file

MicroGenDX COVID-19 Rapid qPCR testing is now available for hospitals, medical labs, and physicians:

- Processes 550 specimens per 1.5 hours
- Ten years of CAP proficiency data demonstrating 99.4% accuracy²
- Most published clinical trials²