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| |  | | --- | |  | | SARS-COV-2 (Antigen) Hospital Discharge Screen  Notification Date: 7/17/24  Effective Date: 7/18/24 | | SUBJECT: Discontinuation of SARS-COV-2 (Antigen) Hospital Discharge Screen  The COVID-19 Discharge Antigen Test was implemented on March 7th, 2023, in response to Skilled Nursing Facilities requiring COVID-19 screening prior to admission. This test was used for discharge screening only, not for preadmission testing, preprocedural testing, or diagnosis.  Many Skilled Nursing Facilities have now relaxed these requirements, reducing our test utilization. As a result, Laboratory, and the Infection Prevention Committee have elected to discontinue this assay. It will be removed from all order and preference lists effective 07/16/2024.  The Antigen Hospital Discharge Screen used a different collection kit than the continuing PCR test (see image). Please discard all collection kits labeled for the discharge screen test.  If a COVID-19 test is required for discharge, please order **SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) RAPID PCR LAB13674.**  Please direct questions or comments to:  Nyssa Sheridan, MS, MLS (ASCP)  Microbiology Technical Specialist, St. Mary’s Madison Microbiology  608-258-6756  nyssa.sheridan@ssmhealth.com  Please communicate to colleagues and staff in your area accordingly.  Thank you,  ***Adam Morgan, M.D.***  ***Laboratory Medical Director***  ***Pathology, SSM Health St. Mary’s Hospital Madison***  *700 South Park Street*  *Madison, WI 53715*  *Office: (608) 258-6914* | |  | |