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Brighton & Hove Submission of Pathology Samples during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Primary Care

*Process for the submission of
samples from suspected or
confirmed COVID-19 Patients in
Primary Care*

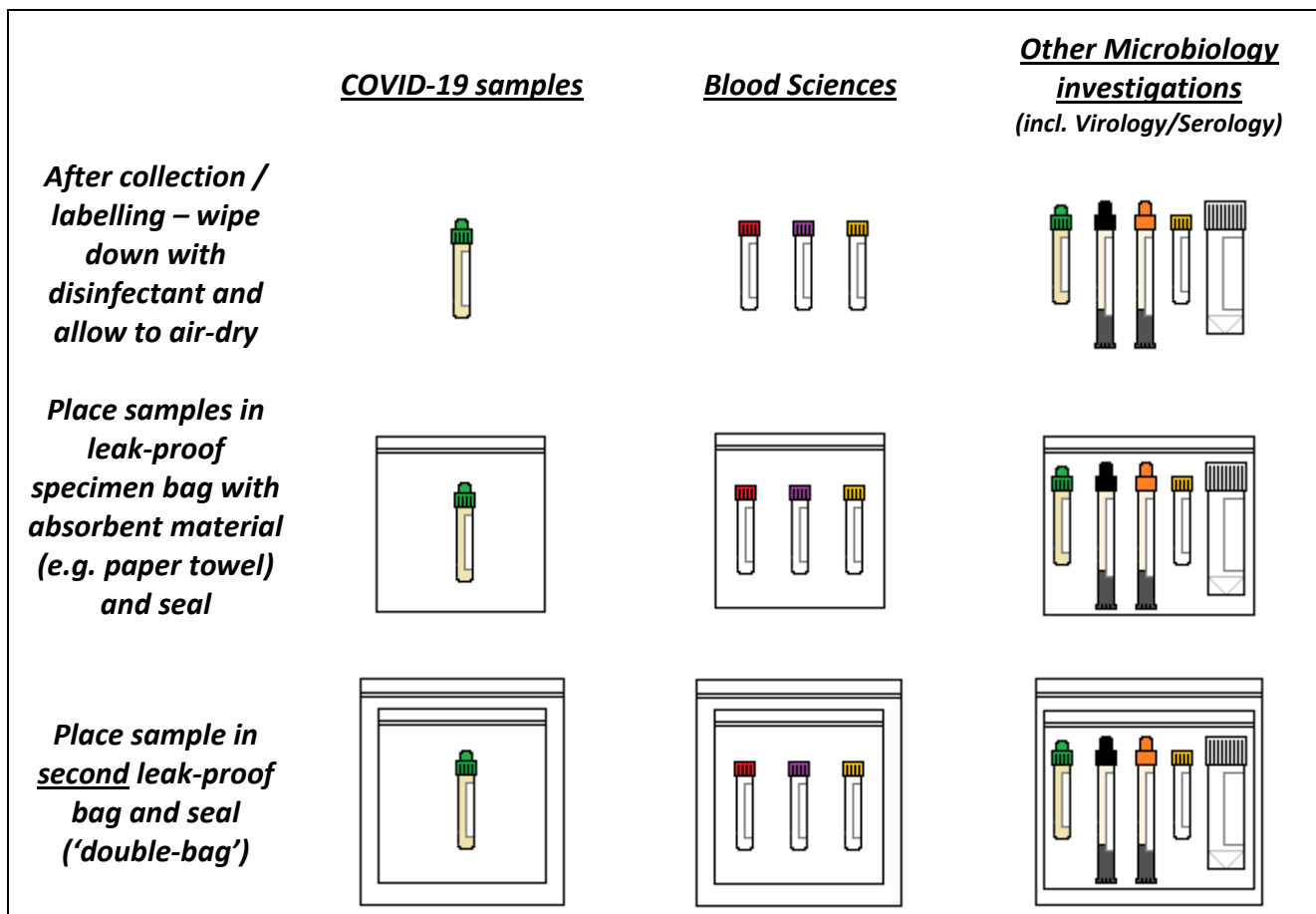
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1.0	23/04/2020	Final	Frontier Pathology NHS Partnership


For the safety of Pathology staff and to avoid unnecessary delays or repeat testing please follow the guidelines below when submitting samples to Pathology for testing from suspected or known coronavirus patients – ***this includes patients with a previous diagnosis of COVID-19***


a) PACKAGING OF INDIVIDUAL PATIENT SAMPLES:

- Sample requests should be separated and packaged as follows:



(NOTE: Sample for any other discipline e.g. Histology, Cytology etc. should be submitted in the same manner)

 Attach request forms to OUTSIDE of the second sample bag using a small amount of adhesive tape only

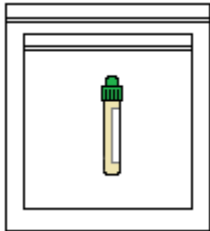
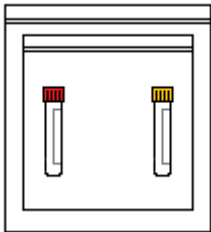
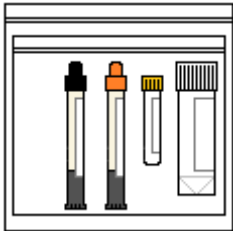
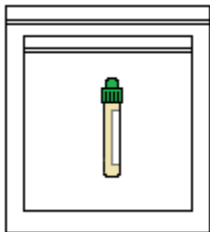
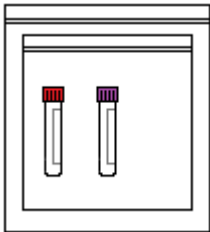
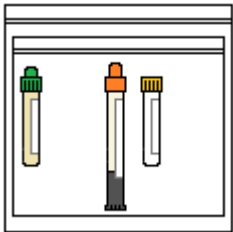
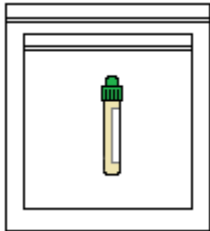
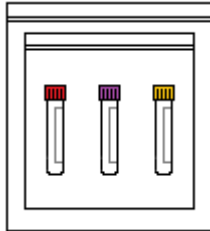
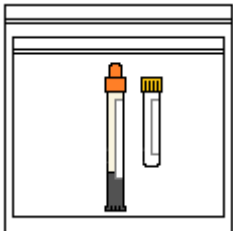
 A high-risk/enhanced handling sticker or warning label should be affixed to either the specimen bag or request form


ADDITIONAL NOTES:

1) When submitting paediatric samples or samples from adults with low volume; wherever possible please use the equivalent 2mL Vacutainer blood tubes rather than the paediatric tubes

b) PACKAGING AND SUBMITTING OF MULTIPLE PATIENTS' SAMPLES:

- Follow the instructions for packaging of individual patient samples as per a) and then continue as follows:

(EXAMPLES)	<u>COVID-19 samples</u>	<u>Blood Sciences</u>	<u>Other Microbiology investigations</u> (incl. Virology/Serology)
Patient A			
	+	+	+
Patient B			
	+	+	+
Patient C			
All samples should be collected together as Pathology discipline 'sets'	Rubber band <i>or</i> Plastic bag <i>or</i> Plastic sample container	Rubber band <i>or</i> Plastic bag <i>or</i> Plastic sample container	Rubber band <i>or</i> Plastic bag <i>or</i> Plastic sample container
Place sets together into transport bag or box and await collection by regular courier/driver			

 If the multiple patient samples are collected together then the outer container should be clearly marked with an enhanced handling sticker or warning label

For Transportation queries:

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Appendix 1 - High-risk / enhanced handling sticker

