

ELC ENHANCING DETECTION: FLORIDA TESTING PLAN

2020 Overarching Jurisdictional SARS-COV-2 Testing Strategy

Jurisdiction:	Florida
Population Size:	21 million

1. Describe the overarching testing strategy in your state or jurisdiction.

Florida, with a population of 21 million residents, has been asked to ensure testing of a minimum of 420,000 residents each month to meet the ELC Enhancing Detection Goals.

Florida Department of Health (Department) is an integrated public health agency with county health departments (CHDs) in each of the state's 67 counties. The CHDs work closely with county governments and health care stakeholders in each local community. The Department has three public health laboratories located in Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa. Florida's emergency management services (EMS) are also coordinated through the Department and EMS personnel have been actively engaged statewide in this response.

In response to the emerging COVID-19 outbreak, Governor Ron DeSantis declared a State of Emergency for COVID-19 on March 9, 2020. The State Emergency Response Team (SERT), which includes a very active and integrated Emergency Support Function 8 representing public health, has been activated and personnel have worked closely with county emergency management and public health officials to ensure the availability of testing personnel, laboratories, test supplies, and PPE for community testing sites. The SERT has regular conference calls with emergency managers, health care and other stakeholder groups (such as faith-based communities, legislative leaders and school superintendents) to ensure that guidance and resources are distributed effectively. Licensed health care facilities and professionals (including pharmacists) receive regular updates on websites and by emails and fax. Resource requests are made through electronic data systems (Web EOC and ReadyOp) from local emergency management and public health officials. We plan to continue to maintain a centralized approach to respond to resource requests for supplies and personnel from local communities to support the COVID-19 response through SERT. Personnel have been activated to help facilitate the surge of purchasing and human resources related mission requests.

In addition, in close collaboration with hospitals and long-term care facilities, the SERT has facilitated extensive testing efforts at long term care facilities and ensured laboratory testing access for hospitals through the public health laboratories and contracts with 8 private laboratories for an approximate daily capacity of 45,000 tests. Between April 25, 2020 and May 24, 2020, 539,318 persons (2.6 % of Florida's population) have been tested for SARS CoV-2 virus or antigen in Florida. In addition, reports showing 113,000 persons tested for IgG or total antibodies during the same time period have also been received. As an established emergency management system Florida will continue these proven practices to achieve the 2% monthly goal.

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The State of Florida has expanded our community testing activities in several ways. The SERT has sponsored community-based drive through testing and walk up sites. Walk up sites have been placed to reach residents in minority populations and those with restricted mobility as a result of health concerns or transportation needs. In addition, specific testing outreach has been conducted to homeless populations and in communities with seasonal workers. Local county supported testing sites are also available. These sites are strategically placed throughout the state targeting areas with increasing cases, population centers, and vulnerable populations. Currently there are 13 counties which operate 21 state-supported testing sites. For a list of the state-supported testing sites visit <https://www.floridadisaster.org/covid19/testing-sites/>. Community organized sites are not represented on these websites as the locations and operational parameters are established by the community organizations.

A mixed approach will continue to be utilized moving forward which provides counties the opportunity to support the locations or the state to provide the services to test the populations.

The State of Florida has purchased 200,000 CELLEX antibody tests which have been deployed to five drive through sites as well as hospitals. To date, approximately 5,000 of these tests have been conducted. The State has also purchased the recently approved point of care antigen test from Quidel. The distribution plan will be based on need and requests from local communities.

Florida has a large number of vulnerable persons residing in long-term care facilities. The SERT has coordinated an extensive effort to rapidly detect and respond to outbreaks in these facilities. On May 24, 2020, there were more than 6,000 cases among residents and personnel at 1,500 facilities identified. The Florida SERT has launched a plan to test all personnel and residents of Florida nursing homes and assisted living facilities between April 11 and June 1. This includes testing an additional 252,000 persons at 3,889 facilities. To date the SERT has coordinated the screening of 86,147 staff and residents of long-term care facilities. The SERT is contracting with a commercial laboratory to support this testing. In addition, a mobile van with point of care testing capability (GeneXpert) has been deployed to support this effort.

The SERT continues to expand testing services by adding walk ups areas with vulnerable populations and is working with several business partners to provide testing on their commercial properties.

As stated previously, each CHD has been charged with testing 2% of the county population each month. CHDs will expand on the current testing services within their county to ensure this goal is achieved. Targeted outreach will be conducted to underserved communities such as homeless, farm workers, service industry workers, ethnic minorities, as well as under and uninsured community members based on county specific findings from local community health assessment efforts. As we are an integrated Department resources to complete this goal will be provided to them through the resource request

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process described above. CHDs will report weekly in writing on the progress and progress will be monitored and evaluated through established CHD calls.

The SERT is also coordinating closely with local and state law enforcement to monitor for outbreaks in correctional facilities. To date, we have uncovered outbreaks in 81 correctional facilities with more than 2,300 cases. Testing of symptomatic personnel and inmates is recommended.

As antigen-based point of care tests with high sensitivity and specificity become available we will work with health care provider and community partners to facilitate access to rapid testing for outbreak detection and screening of essential workers.

We plan to further enhance our testing capability by increasing our testing capacity in Florida's public health laboratories and are asking for financial support for this effort. By enhancing the capacity for high throughput testing at our public health laboratories we can ensure timely testing and reporting of community and sentinel surveillance tests, as well as testing related to outbreak response. We are also asking for financial support for our laboratory data system, as well as our case reporting data system, which manages our electronic laboratory reports (ELR) from private laboratories. Florida has a robust ELR system that receives reports from 1653 laboratories, encompassing about 98% of all COVID-19 laboratory reports. Positive and negative COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR), antigen and antibody results are reportable in Florida per emergency rule 64DER20-18 adopted on April 8, 2020.

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Table #1a: Number of individuals planned to be tested, by month

BY MONTH:	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	TOTAL
Diagnosics*	500,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	3,650,000
Serology	2,000	5,000	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	40,000
TOTAL	502,000	455,000	455,500	455,500	455,500	455,500	455,500	455,500	

Table #1b: Planned expansion of testing jurisdiction-wide

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Name of testing entity	Testing venue (select from drop down)	Performing Lab (if different from testing entity)	Daily diagnostic throughput	Daily serologic throughput	Platforms or devices used (list all)	Specific at-risk populations targeted (list all)
BPHL	Public health lab		13,706	5,520		Elderly, disabled, nursing home residents, prisoners, health care workers, employees of high-risk facilities, critical infrastructure workforce, childcare providers, and others as identified in partnership with County Health Departments and Bureau of Epidemiology.

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State Emergency Response Team (SERT)	Commercial or private lab	RealDx	3,000			nursing homes Residents/Employees FDEM
SERT	Commercial or private lab	NW Pathology	10,000			nursing homes Residents/Employees FDEM
SERT	Commercial or private lab	RealDx	3,000			nursing homes Residents/Employees FDEM
SERT	Commercial or private lab	NW Pathology	10,000			nursing homes Residents/Employees FDEM
SERT	Commercial or private lab	Genetworx	7,500			elderly All FDEM
SERT	Commercial or private lab	Bioreference	4,000			All FDOH

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SERT	Commercial or private lab	Biollections	1,500			All FDOH
County Health Activities	Commercial or private lab	MDL	15,000			All FDEM

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2020 Direct Expansion of SARS-COV-2 Testing by Health Departments

2. Describe your public health department's direct impact on testing expansion in your jurisdiction.

Florida Department of Health (Department) is an integrated public health agency with county health departments (CHDs) in each of the state's 67 counties. The CHDs work closely with county governments and health care stakeholders in each local community. The Department has three public health laboratories located in Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa. Florida's emergency management services (EMS) are also coordinated through the Department and EMS personnel have been actively engaged statewide in this response.

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We plan to further enhance our testing capability by increasing our testing capacity in Florida's public health laboratories and are asking for financial support for this effort. By enhancing the capacity for high through-put testing at our public health laboratories we can ensure timely testing and reporting of community and sentinel surveillance tests as well as testing related to outbreak response. We are also asking for financial support for our laboratory data system as well as our case reporting data system, which manages our electronic laboratory reports (ELR) from private laboratories. Florida has a robust ELR system that receives reports from 1653 laboratories, encompassing about 98% of all COVID-19 laboratory reports. Positive and negative COVID-19 PCR, antigen and antibody results are reportable in Florida per emergency rule 64DER20-26 adopted on April 8, 2020. To reduce barriers to efficient testing by expanding electronic laboratory test data, BPHL will implement portable/mobile device packages (LabWare Portable Solutions) with health department clinics or collection sites to facilitate rapid collection of data that will be transmitted electronically to BPHL's Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) to improve data quality and remove time-consuming patient demographic entry. BPHL will implement serology testing for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies by EUA assays. BPHL will establish a serology testing plan based on evaluation of the assays and the best choice of testing algorithm based on antibody isotype (IgM, IgG, IgA). BPHL will target testing of health care workers, employees of high-risk facilities, critical infrastructure workforce, childcare providers, and others as identified in partnership with our County Health Departments and Bureau of Epidemiology. Additional instruments required for diagnostic molecular testing: May - 2 Hologic Panther instruments to supplement high through-put molecular diagnostic testing, ; June - 4 additional Hologic Panther instruments and 1 Hologic Panther Fusion module, 1; July - 4 additional Panther instruments; August - 3 Roche Cobas 6800. Additional instruments required for serology testing: May - 1 DiaSorin Liaison XL instrument to supplement high through-put, automated serology testing, ; June - 1 additional 1 DiaSorin Liaison XL, 1; July - 1 additional high through-put serology instrument, Abbott Alinity. [Note: Instruments that have already been purchased and are awaiting delivery include; 10 x Hologic Panthers, 1 x Panther Fusion, 1 x DiaSorin Liason XL, and 3 x Roche Cobas 6800]. Requirement for swabs: 80% of testing will be with the Hologic Panther using the proprietary Hologic Multitest swab so additional swabs will be needed for 20% not collected in Multitest swab and collected and run on CDC assay, Panther Fusion, Abbott m2000, ThermoFisher TaqPath or Roche Cobas 6800. BPHL is making it's own VTM but to supplement this, some VTM will be required. BPHL does not want to use MTM as this cannot be run on the Hologic systems. There is a need for Hologic proprietary lysis tubes which are used if samples are not collected with the Hologic multitest swab and also for running samples on the Hologic Panther Fusion.

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Table #2: Planned expansion of testing driven by public health departments

BY MONTH:	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	TOTAL
Number of additional* staff to meet planned testing levels	11	32	24	0	0	0	0	0	67
FOR DIAGNOSTIC TESTING									
How many additional* testing equipment/devices are needed to meet planned testing levels? (provide an estimated number, and include platform details in narrative above)	2	5	4	3					14
Volume of additional swabs needed to meet planned testing levels ⁺⁺	0	1,200	2,000	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,300	39,700

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BY MONTH:	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	TOTAL
Volume of additional media (VTM, MTM, saline, etc.) needed to meet planned testing levels ^{**}			500	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,500
Volume of additional reagents needed to meet planned testing levels, by testing unit and platform (i.e. 100K/day - Hologic panther; 100k/day - Thermofisher)			1,000 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	3,300 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	3,300 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	3,300 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	3,300 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	3,300 Hologic lysis tubes; 3,000 reagents kits for Roche Cobas; 500 reagent kits for ThermoFisher KingFisher, 500 Hologic Panther Fusion tests	

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BY MONTH:	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	TOTAL
FOR SEROLOGIC TESTING									
Number of additional* equipment and devices to meet planned testing levels	1	1	1						3
Volume of additional reagents needed to meet planned testing levels, by testing unit and platform (i.e. 100K/day - Hologic panther; 100k/day - Thermofisher)									

* Report new monthly additions only, not cumulative levels

++ For May and June, only include needs beyond the supplies provided by FEMA. Report new monthly additions only, not cumulative levels.