



Public Health Update

**Nationwide Shortages of Reagents for Testing SARS-CoV-2 Virus**

March 17, 2020

**Situation**

Due to nationwide shortages of reagents for testing SARS-CoV-2 virus, the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) has exhausted our current supply of reagents and must cease testing immediately. SNHD advises sending SARS-Cov-2 samples to the reference laboratory of your choice (Quest Diagnostics or LabCorp) until further notice. The link below has example reference laboratories now performing the test.

**Recommendations**

FDA has updated collection and transport guidelines for SARS-CoV-2 samples, also outlined in the Frequently Asked Questions in the following link.

<http://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/faqs-diagnostic-testing-sars-cov-2>

Southern Nevada Health District will give further guidance for testing as the situation evolves. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this emergency situation.

**Resources**

Federal Drug Administration (FDA) - FAQs on Diagnostic Testing for SARS-CoV-2:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/faqs-diagnostic-testing-sars-cov-2>

FDA - Policy for Diagnostic Tests for Coronavirus Disease-2019 during the Public Health Emergency: <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/policy-diagnostic-tests-coronavirus-disease-2019-during-public-health-emergency>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fermin Leguen', is written over a light blue background.

Fermin Leguen, MD

Acting Chief Health Officer

Southern Nevada Health District

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

330 S. Valley View Blvd. P.O. Box 3902, Las Vegas, NV 89127 • phone (702) 759-1000 • [www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org](http://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org)