

Summit Clinical Laboratories Provides Same Day Test Results for Covid, Flu, and RSV

Bringing safety and certainty to the community with additional respiratory infection testing

Milwaukee, WI, November 28th, 2022 –As the weather gets colder, an increased risk of getting sick comes with it. We have all lived through the previous two years of the Covid pandemic worried about infection or getting our loved one’s sick. With the holidays just around the corner, the same need to keep ourselves and others healthy and safe remains.

We all are aware of the Flu, and many people get their Flu shot every year. Another common virus, RSV, has started to show itself ever present in our local population. But RSV is not as widely known or talked about, nor is there an approved immunization against it. RSV stands for respiratory syncytial virus. RSV, is a **common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms**. Most people recover in a week or two, but RSV can be serious, especially for infants and older adults. RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis (inflammation of the small airways in the lung) and pneumonia (infection of the lungs) in children younger than 1 year of age in the United States.¹ According to Pfizer, each year, it is estimated that more than 177,000 older adults are hospitalized and 14,000 of them die in the United States due to RSV.² The disease burden of RSV in children is also staggering. Globally, there are an estimated 33 million cases of RSV annually in children less than 5 years of age, with about 3 million hospitalized and up to approximately 120,000 dying each year from complications associated with the infection.² Therefore, places like schools and daycares as well as senior living facilities are at the highest risk.

New PCR tests for RSV have now become available. In the past we focused on knowing whether we had Covid-19 or not. Today, we have the ability as a community to find out if our symptoms are from the Flu or RSV in addition to Covid-19.

Summit Clinical Labs has launched a multiplex assay that uses a single nose swab to determine if Covid-19, the Flu, or RSV is the potential culprit. “Our test is a PCR-based assay. PCR is the gold-standard in molecular testing and continues to provide absolute certainty to those who get tested this way.”, says Faisal Ahmed-Yahia, Summit Clinical Laboratories, Director of Outreach. “People no longer need to wonder what their ailment may be from. As always, our results will continue to be available the same day and people can get tested at any of our 11 walk-in locations.” Anyone who wants a test just needs to go to a summit clinic and fill out a test request form and a health screen. You select the tests you want us to run, and get results same day!

With the advances in technology over the past few years, and the high focus on population safety and health, Summit Clinical Laboratories is committed to bringing the latest capabilities and advancements to all. We can all continue to stay positive, and test negative!

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>
2. <https://www.pfizer.com/health-wellness/disease-conditions/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv>