**COVID-19 Molecular Testing Process**

### Collect

**Sample Collection**
Swab via the nose and/or throat

**Materials:** Swab
- May come with or without substance necessary to keep the virus stable for testing
- The swab and the transport substance (media) together are a swab kit

Performed by or in the presence of a health care provider on an individual patient

### Prepare

**Separation**
Isolate the viral genetic material (RNA)

**Materials:** Extraction kit
- Includes the chemicals (reagents) required to separate the COVID-19 RNA from the rest of the sample (e.g., Qiagen, Roche)

### Test

**Analysis**
Determine presence of COVID-19

**Materials:** Test kit or PCR kit
- Includes the substances required to copy and amplify the COVID-19 RNA so that it can be identified

**Laboratory-Based Tests**
Performed using equipment that can run hundreds or thousands of samples per day. Typically within 3-4 days, provides results of whether or not a patient has COVID-19. (e.g., ThermoFisher, Roche, Quidel)

**Rapid Point of Care Tests**
Rapid point-of-care tests combine the extraction and test processes into one tube that can be tested using a smaller machine that is most often found in provider settings (hospitals, physician offices). Results are available for one to 80 tests in 20-45 minutes, and these faster results reduce PPE requirements. (e.g., Cepheid, Abbott, Mesa BioTech)

Note: All information according to FDA guidance as of March 30, 2020