



To: All Regional Medical Laboratory, Inc. (RML) Clients

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Subject: COVID-19 – New Ask-on-Order-Entry Questions Required

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Regional Medical Laboratory (RML) is committed to providing our clients with necessary laboratory testing for their patients while meeting all compliance guidelines issued by state and federal mandates. Under the COVID-19 Pandemic Response CARES Act Section 18115, Laboratory Data Reporting requires additional “ask on order entry” (AOE) questions be implemented to obtain additional information on the patient or employee being tested.

Beginning September 28<sup>th</sup>, the following questions will need to be asked to the patient at the time of collection and submitted with the order to RML each time a SARS-CoV-2 by PCR (#6907557) test is requested on every patient:

- Is the patient pregnant?
- Is this the first test for COVID -19?
- Is the patient employed in a healthcare setting?
- Does the patient reside in a congregate care setting (i.e., nursing home, assisted living, group home, prison)?
- Does the patient have symptoms related to COVID-19?
- If yes, what is the illness onset date?
- Did the infection require hospitalization?
- Was the patient admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) for COVID-19?

RML has provided a pdf form on our website [www.RMLonline.com](http://www.RMLonline.com) containing these questions that may be completed to accompany the RML Requisition. Responses may also be submitted electronically where applicable.

Below is a link providing additional requirements and information about these AOE questions. For questions, please contact your Sales Representative. Thank you for your continued partnership with RML in the health of our community.

<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/hhs-guidance-implementation.pdf>