

A Message to our Patients

Due to the unprecedented pandemic and the recent record-breaking resurgence of cases of COVID19 in the USA and across the world, there is a nationwide shortage of COVID19 testing materials. Medical Art Center (MAC)/Shamra Laboratory is fulfilling our duty to protect the country and its citizens during this trying time. The CDC and all other medical organizations are urging fast, accurate tests for COVID19. MAC/Shamra is a stand-alone facility being one of the few nation-wide fulfilling the need for fast, accurate test results for patients and especially time-sensitive cases.

MAC/Shamra is offering COVID19 testing in conjunction with the Biofire Respiratory Panel 2.1. The Biofire Panel tests for 23 types of bacteria and viruses, including COVID19. The FDA has issued the EUA (Emergency Use Authorization) based on the panel in its entirety. Supplies to run the single COVID19 PCR test are not available for our system and MAC/Shamra has made the decision to offer our patients a more inclusive test and have results back to the patient same-day. Other labs running COVID19 tests may take up to 14 days to have results. This delay can lead to potential spreading of the virus in patients unaware of their infection with COVID19. Patients and their loved-ones may potentially be put at risk if COVID19 results are not readily available. This delay in diagnosis and treatment may lead to increased severe COVID19 cases as well as an increase in the morbidity and mortality of infected patients.

Many facilities performing medical procedures and surgeries are requiring testing for COVID19 prior to the procedure. Without quick results, patients may be forced to delay or cancel their necessary procedures.

Although there is no clear policy for this state-of-the-art testing, most insurances are in agreement with our diagnosis and treatment plan for patients. Additionally, any insurance policy that would contradict our plan has been suspended in light of the pandemic.

Delay in diagnosis of COVID19 is affecting the economy of our beloved country. Without fast results, people are often forced to quarantine at home without the ability to work. At MAC/Shamra, our devotion to our country has been proven in our actions, not just our words.

It is in our best clinical judgement to use an accurate PCR test such as the Biofire Panel to stop the spread of COVID19 and keep our citizens healthy. We will continue our commitment to outstanding care with the goal of returning our beloved patients to their normal lives as quickly and safely as possible.

OUT-OF-POCKET PRICES:
\$250 Rapid Antigen Testing
\$250 Rapid Antibody Testing
\$1,500 Rapid PCR Testing - Biofire Respiratory Panel 2.1
*Only cash and bank checks accepted.