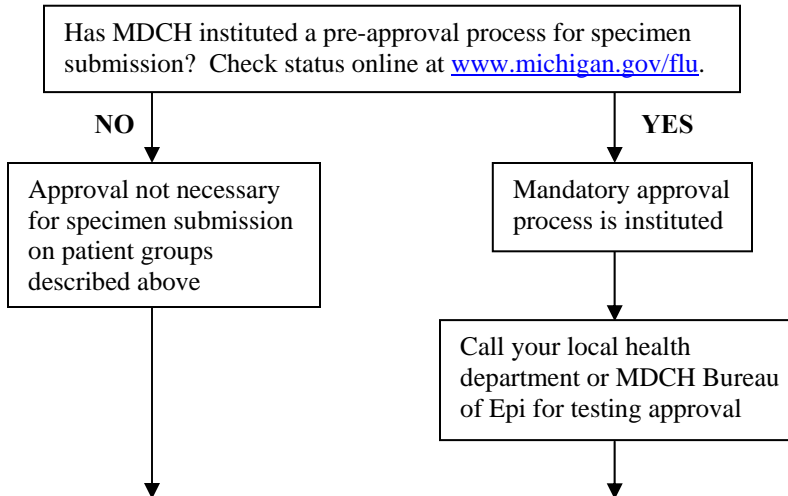


## Influenza Testing Algorithm for Cases and Outbreaks – Fall 2009 Michigan Department of Community Health

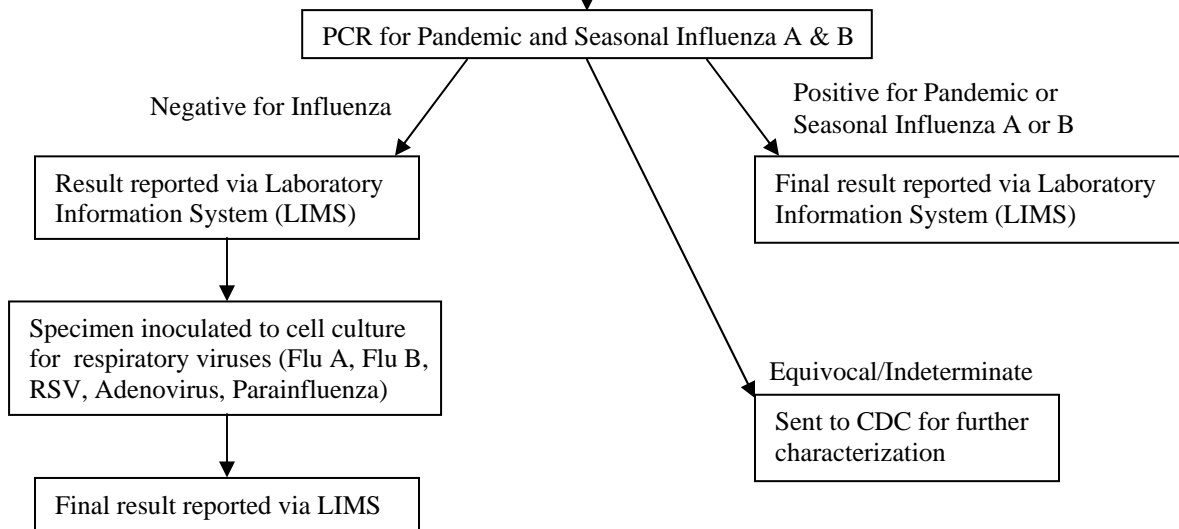
Questions regarding case and outbreak influenza testing should be directed to the MDCH Bureau of Epidemiology at 517-335-8165 during normal business hours or 517-335-9030 after hours.

MDCH influenza testing will only be conducted for public health case investigations (<sup>†</sup>ICU hospitalizations, severely ill pregnant women, patients with unusual and severe presentations, and deaths) and for congregate setting outbreak/cluster investigations. See “MDCH 2009-2010 Guidelines for Clinicians on Influenza Testing,” available on the MIHAN and at [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu), for more information and for reporting requirements.



Collect acceptable specimen\*<sup>#</sup> and ship to MDCH on frozen cold packs, along with MDCH lab test request form (go to [www.michigan.gov/mdchlab](http://www.michigan.gov/mdchlab) and click on “Test Request Forms” and “Microbiology/Virology DCH-0583”).

**On test request form, (1) under “Specimen Information” enter “Novel Influenza A PCR” in the “Other – Specify Test Code/Name” field. (2) Under the “Indicate Test Reason Below” subsection, enter reason for testing<sup>†</sup> (see top box above) in the “Other-Specify” field. If approval process is instituted, also write the name of person (and health department) giving approval in the space marked “MDCH Prior Approval Given By.”** Testing will be delayed if this information is not provided.



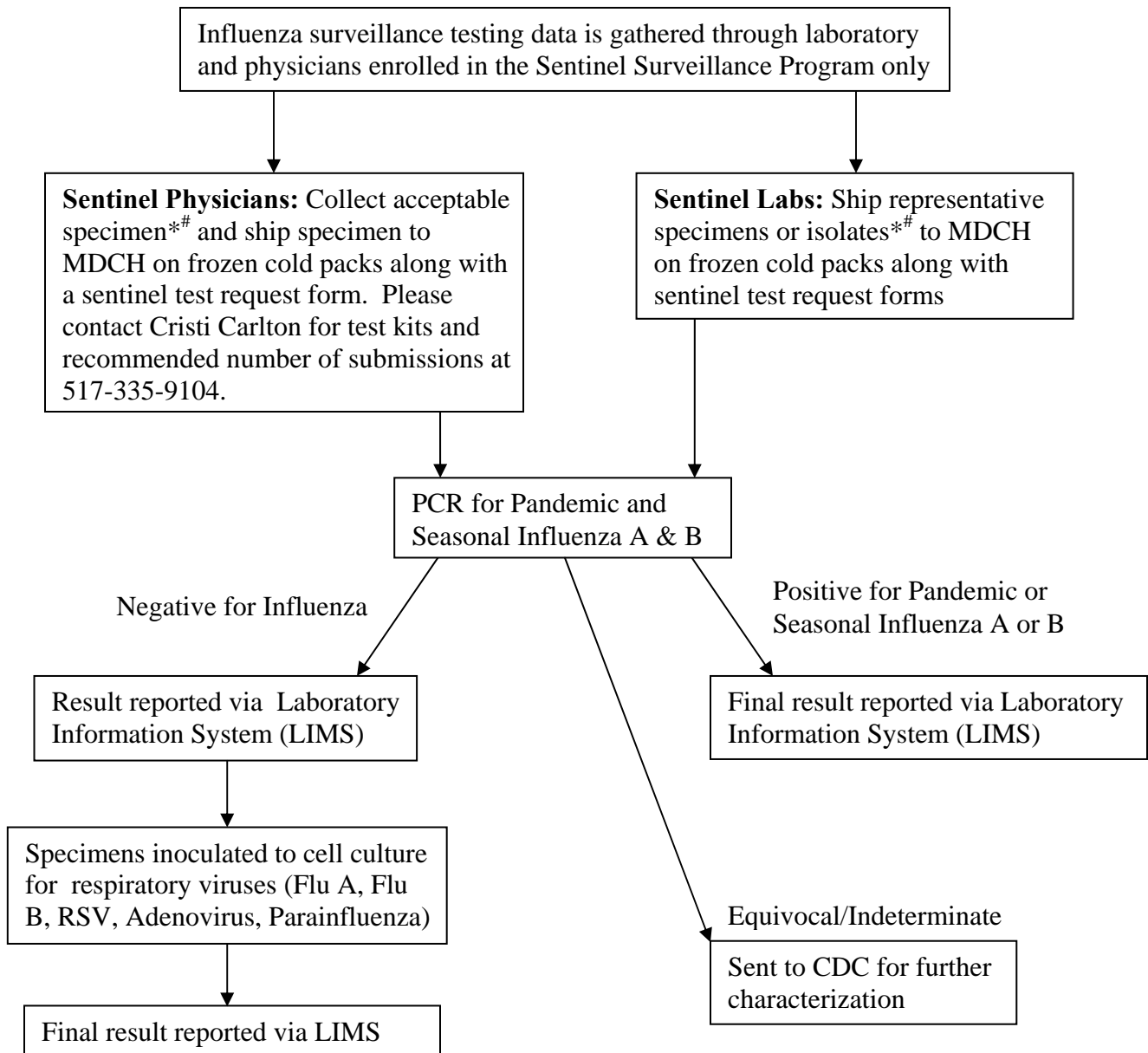
\* Acceptable specimens: NP swab in viral transport medium (VTM) or saline (PBS); Nasal swab in VTM or PBS; Dual NP/OP swabs in VTM or PBS; Nasal aspirates; Viral isolates. **DO NOT SUBMIT MULTIPLE SAMPLES ON THE SAME PATIENT.**

# Swabs used in influenza rapid diagnostic tests **cannot** be reused for MDCH testing. Consider collecting two swabs so that one may be reserved for MDCH confirmatory testing if needed. Alternatively, an aliquot of the original specimen may be submitted.

**Surveillance Testing Algorithm for Influenza – Fall 2009**  
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**NOTE: Surveillance samples should only be submitted by physicians and laboratories enrolled in the statewide Sentinel Surveillance Program. If you are unsure whether you are enrolled or if you would like to enroll in this program, please consult your local health department or MDCH (517-335-9104 for physicians; 517-335-8165 for labs).**

**Surveillance Testing**



\* Acceptable specimens: NP swab in viral transport medium (VTM) or saline (PBS); Nasal swab in VTM or PBS; Dual NP/OP swabs in VTM or PBS; Nasal aspirates; Viral isolates. **DO NOT SUBMIT MULTIPLE SAMPLES ON THE SAME PATIENT.**  
 # Swabs used in influenza rapid diagnostic tests **cannot** be reused for MDCH testing. Consider collecting two swabs so that one may be reserved for MDCH confirmatory testing if needed. Alternatively, an aliquot of the original specimen may be submitted.