



AEGIS SCIENCES COVID-19 TESTING

High Capacity; 24 Hour Turnaround; Medicare Base Rate (\$100)

Aegis Sciences, a member of the American Clinical Laboratory Association (ACLA), is a Nashville-based national forensic toxicology and healthcare laboratory that provides science-driven medication monitoring and consulting services, and is a national leader in the controlled substances and sports testing space. With a work force approaching 1000 employees nationally, Aegis was founded in 1990 out of a partnership with Vanderbilt University. Aegis has recently begun COVID-19 testing and currently is performing significant amounts of testing for the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Department of Corrections, and health providers in numerous states. Aegis is approved by 29 state departments of health to perform COVID-19 testing, with additional states added daily.

Highlights

- **Licensed; Accredited; FDA Authorized:** Aegis is licensed by CLIA and CAP accredited. Aegis offers a validated, FDA authorized COVID-19 diagnostic test (SARS-CoV-2, qPCR) in its BioPharma molecular laboratory located at its laboratory complex near downtown Nashville.
- **ACLA Member:** Aegis is one of eleven ACLA member labs providing COVID-19 testing.
- **High Capacity:** Aegis currently has a capacity of ~3,500 tests/day, and over the next 1-2 weeks is scaling to 7,000 tests/day.
- **Quick Turnaround:** Aegis's tests are performed and reported within an average 24-hour turnaround time after receipt in the lab.
- **Fewer Reagent Availability Concerns:** Aegis is running on a different molecular testing platform than many other labs and therefore is not expecting to run into the same reagent availability constraints that other labs continue to encounter. To further avoid reagent constraints, Aegis has validated methods using several manufacturer reagent kits to maintain redundant supply channels and avoid a single point of failure.
- **Cost-Efficiency:** Aegis is committed to perform all COVID-19 testing at the Medicare base rate of \$100 per test for high throughput test methodologies.
- **Aegis provides redundancy:** At minimum, it is critically important to have redundancy in the testing supply chain from the onset, as these constraints can be expected to develop periodically over the coming weeks and months.
- **Testing materials:** Aegis supplies its own validated testing kits (including nasopharyngeal "NP" swabs), thus eliminating the need for governmental entities and providers to acquire their own testing materials. Simply administer the tests using Aegis's materials and return to Aegis for testing. Aegis can provide logistics support as needed.
- **Antibody Testing:** Aegis will launch serology (antibody testing) in mid-May.

Testing Process/Technical Specifications

To perform COVID19 testing, Aegis utilizes the follow methodology and instrumentation:

- Viral DNA and RNA extracted via automated extraction on Chemagic 360 instruments
- Real Time Reverse-Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (Real Time RT-PCR) performed to assess viral titer load with limit of detection of 10-20 copies/milliliter
- Test platforms:
 - Thermo Fisher Quant Studio 6
 - Thermo Fisher Viia7
- Test results will be reported in a qualitative manner (i.e. Positive or Negative)

