Supplement F: Laboratory Guidance

Appendix F8

Guidelines for Laboratory Diagnosis of SARS-CoV Infection

Laboratory confirmation of SARS-CoV infection is based on:

- Detection of any of the following by a validated test, with confirmation in a reference laboratory:
  - Serum antibodies to SARS-CoV in a single serum specimen, *or*
  - A four-fold or greater increase in SARS-CoV antibody titer between acute- and convalescent-phase serum specimens tested in parallel, *or*
  - Negative SARS-CoV antibody test result on acute-phase serum and positive SARS-CoV antibody test result on convalescent-phase serum tested in parallel; **or**

- Isolation in cell culture of SARS-CoV from a clinical specimen, with confirmation using a test validated by CDC; **or**

- Detection of SARS-CoV RNA by RT-PCR validated by CDC, with confirmation in a reference laboratory, from:
  - Two clinical specimens from different sources, *or*
  - Two clinical specimens collected from the same source on two different days

Guidelines for the collection of specimens from potential cases of SARS are provided in Appendix F4.