

NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB COLLECTION

Materials:

- Nasopharyngeal swab (flexible shaft) with rayon tip
- Viral transport medium tube (M4-RT)

SPECIMEN COLLECTION:

1. Bend shaft to follow curve of nasopharynx.
2. Insert swab through nostril to posterior nasopharynx (same distance as from nostrils to external opening of ear).
3. Rotate swab a few times to obtain infected cells.
4. For an optimal sample, repeat procedure using other nostril.
5. Insert the NP swab into the viral transport media, snapping the excess shaft at the break point to fit inside the tube. Firmly secure the cap.

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE:

1. Send specimen to lab immediately on ice or cool pack.

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