

# RPP Nasal Specimen COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

(MP-FR-0001) VERSION 1.2



## MATERIALS PROVIDED

1 Sterile Swab | 1 Biohazard Bag | 1 LA106 Transport Media Tube | Ice Pack(s) | Lab Pak Mailer

## SPECIMEN COLLECTION

To ensure safety and validity of the sample it is important to follow the instructions provided below.

### COLLECTION

1. When swabbing another person, don the appropriate personal protective equipment. Put on gloves, mask and other personal protective equipment as necessary.
2. Label the transport tube with two unique patient identifiers. Confirm identity with the patient.
3. Refer to specific sample type collection: Nasopharyngeal (NP) or Anterior Nare (AN)

### NASOPHARYNGEAL

1. Tilt patient's head back 70 degrees.
2. Gently and slowly insert swab through the nostril parallel to the palate (not upwards) until resistance is encountered or the distance is equivalent to that from the ear to the nostril of the patient, indicating contact with the nasopharynx.
3. Gently rub and roll the swab.
4. Leave swab in place for several seconds to absorb secretions.
5. Slowly remove swab while rotating it. Specimens can be collected from both sides using the same swab, but it is not necessary to collect specimens from both sides if the swab is saturated with fluid from the first collection.
6. If a deviated septum or blockage create difficulty in obtaining the specimen from one nostril, use the same swab to obtain the specimen from the other nostril.
7. Place swab, tip first, into the transport tube provided.

### ANTERIOR NARES (Covid-19 Only)

1. Insert the entire collection tip of the swab provided (usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch, or 1 to 1.5 cm) inside the nostril.
2. Firmly sample the nasal wall by rotating the swab in a circular path against the nasal wall at least 4 times.
3. Take approximately 15 seconds to collect the specimen. Be sure to collect any nasal drainage that may be present on the swab.
4. Repeat in the other nostril using the same swab.
5. Place swab, tip first, into the transport tube provided.

### AFTER COLLECTION

1. Recap the tube with the swab remaining in the tube. Make sure cap is secure.
2. Place the transport tube into the zip lock side of the provided specimen bag.
3. Remove PPE and perform hand hygiene.
4. Insert completed requisition into outside pocket (non zip lock) side of biohazard bag. **Please note: Do not place this form inside with sample.**
5. Place all samples collected for the day into the provided Lab Pak mailer. Make sure to include ice pack(s). Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.
6. Do not hold samples. Ship all samples collected on the same day as collection.