

COVID-19 Diagnostic Test Specimen Collection Instructions

Nasal Mid-Turbinate Swab (Healthcare Worker Collected)

To view a video on how to perform a mid-turbinate nasal swab procedure, please visit youtube.com/watch?v=55cA9ZOdVFI.

Warning: Use of cotton-tip, wooden shaft, or calcium alginate swabs is contraindicated and will invalidate results.

If the fluid in the transport tube has leaked in transit, please contact Customer Service at 206-365-1256.

May be contraindicated in patients with bleeding disorders or on anticoagulants. Consider oropharyngeal or anterior nasal swab collection instead.

1. Have the patient blow their nose.
2. Visually check for obstructions.
3. Tilt the head back 70 degrees.
4. Insert the swab approximately one inch (depending on nose size) while gently rotating the swab. Stop when resistance is encountered.
5. Maintain position and gently rotate the swab against the nasal wall.
6. Using the same swab, repeat the process in the other nostril.
7. When finished, immediately place the swab in the labeled transport tube, make sure the swab head is in the transport media at the bottom of the tube.
8. Snap off the shaft at the perforation so that the swab fits into the transport tube and seal it.
9. Leakage of transport fluid can invalidate results! Make sure that the transport tube is sealed tightly to prevent leakage.
10. Place the transport tube into the biohazard bag.
11. Refrigerate the transport tube containing the swab immediately. Keep refrigerated until transferring into the return shipping kit with the ice pack.

Nasopharyngeal Swab (Healthcare Worker Collected)

To view a video on how to perform a nasopharyngeal swab procedure, please visit youtube.com/watch?v=osl9W-0005g.

Warning: Use of cotton-tip, wooden shaft, or calcium alginate swabs is contraindicated and will invalidate results.

If the fluid in the transport tube has leaked in transit, please contact Customer Service at 206-365-1256.

May be contraindicated in patients with bleeding disorders or on anticoagulants. Consider oropharyngeal or anterior nasal swab collection instead.

1. Have the patient blow their nose.
2. Visually check for obstructions.
3. Tilt the patient's head back 70 degrees.
4. Insert the flexible wire shaft swab through the nares parallel (not upwards) to the palate until:
 - Resistance is encountered or
 - A depth equal to the distance from the nostrils to the ear's outer opening is reached (indicating contact with the back of the throat).
5. Gently rub and roll the swab in place for 2-3 seconds to absorb secretions before removing.
6. When finished, immediately place the swab in the labeled transport tube, make sure the swab head is in the transport media at the bottom of the tube.
7. Snap off the shaft at the perforation so that the swab fits into the transport tube and seal it.
8. Leakage of transport fluid can invalidate results! Make sure that the transport tube is sealed tightly to prevent leakage.
9. Place the transport tube into the biohazard bag.
10. Refrigerate the transport tube containing the swab immediately. Keep refrigerated until transferring into the return shipping kit with the ice pack.

Oropharyngeal Swab (Healthcare Worker Collected)

To view a video on how to perform an oropharyngeal swab procedure, please visit youtube.com/watch?v=syXd7kgLSN8.

Warning: Use of cotton-tip, wooden shaft, or calcium alginate swabs is contraindicated and will invalidate results.

If the fluid in the transport tube has leaked in transit, please contact Customer Service at 206-365-1256.

1. Insert swab into the posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas.
2. Rub swab over both tonsillar pillars and posterior oropharynx and avoid touching the tongue, teeth, and gums.
3. When finished, immediately place the swab in the labeled transport tube, make sure the swab head is in the transport media at the bottom of the tube.
4. Snap off the shaft at the perforation so that the swab fits into the transport tube and seal it.
5. Leakage of transport fluid can invalidate results! Make sure that the transport tube is sealed tightly to prevent leakage.
6. Place the transport tube into the biohazard bag.
7. Refrigerate the transport tube containing the swab immediately. Keep refrigerated until transferring into the return shipping kit with the ice pack.