

# Nasopharyngeal Collections



**TriCore Reference Laboratories**  
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**TRICORE**  
REFERENCE LABORATORIES

# Collection Supplies

- PPE

- Gloves
- Face shield or goggles
- Closed lab coat
- N-95 mask.
- Collection materials
  - Viral Transport Media (VTM)
  - Swab
  - Tissue



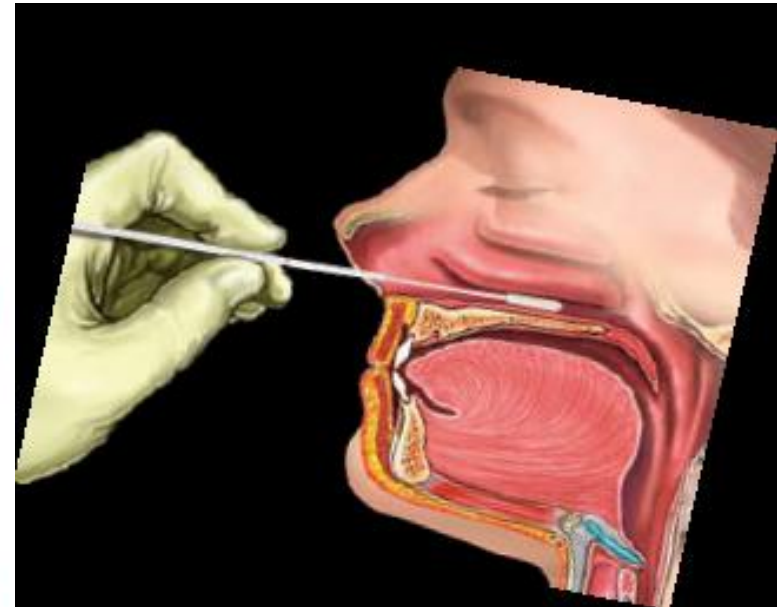
# Nasopharyngeal Collection

Explain process to the patient

- Patient must remain still
- Swab is slowly & gently inserted into nasal passage using a slight upward motion to access posterior **nasopharynx** to obtain sample.

Insert swab into nostril until posterior **nasopharynx** is reached

- Patient may be uncomfortable-may move, cough, and or sneeze
- Rotate three to four times
- Remove swab
- Give the patient a tissue



# Nasopharyngeal Processing



Mix swab in VTM

Break shaft at mark

Screw cap on tightly

Label container with CID

Send with next available courier

- Do not place in drop boxes
- Specimen is fragile





# Other Nasopharyngeal Collections

- Always refer to Directory of Service prior to collection
- Proper Handling:
  - Influenza A (H1N1) – Refrigerate
  - Influenza A & B Screen - Refrigerate
  - Viral Culture - Refrigerate
  - Respiratory Virus Screen, FA - Refrigerate
  - Pertussis - Refrigerate





# Nasopharyngeal Collections

## Aseptic Removal of PPE

1. Remove gloves (avoiding contaminated surfaces), turning inside out while removing
2. Remove face shield (if applicable)
3. Remove mask (touching only the strings)
4. Remove lab coat
5. Wash hands with soap & water

Note: Clean collection area with bleach solution so as to protect YOU, the healthcare worker.

