

Collection of Nasopharyngeal Specimen for Respiratory Viruses- Nasopharyngeal Swab as of November 02, 2009

Equipment:

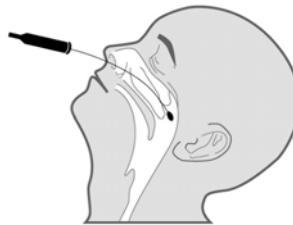
1. Viral transport media with flocked swab **SKU #204783**. Obtain from SPH or RUH Materials Management. Store at room temperature.



2. Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory Severe Respiratory Illness and Pandemic Influenza Requisition. For more copies see: www.health.gov.sk.ca/severe-respiratory-illness-pandemic-req
3. Appropriate Personal Protection Equipment.
4. Plastic bag.

Procedure:

1. Patient should be seated or lying in a comfortable position. Inform patient may feel mild discomfort. Tilt patient's head back.
2. Insert small flocked swab into nostril. Gently push straight back along the nasal septum just above the floor of the nasal passage to the nasopharynx until gentle resistance is felt and the tip is touching the mucosal surface as indicated in diagram. To view video please go to: <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMe0903992/DC1>



3. Rotate the swab 2 to 3 times and hold the swab in place for 5-10 seconds to ensure maximum absorbency.
4. Put the swab in the Viral Transport Medium tube and break the shaft at the breakpoint so the tip drops into the transport medium tube. Secure the top of the tube.
5. Label specimen and place in plastic bag.
6. Fully complete the requisition.
7. Transport to Virology laboratory without delay. Refrigerate if sample cannot be immediately transported.

For further questions please contact SHR Virology at 655-1763 or Microbiologist on Call at 655-1000.