

COVID-19/Influenza Collection Kit

This kit is to be used for:

1. Coronavirus and Influenza testing
2. Kit contains:
 - 1 Instruction sheet
 - 1 screw-capped tube with 2.5ml sterile phosphate buffered saline **OR** viral transport media
 - One Nasal OR Nasopharyngeal OR Oropharyngeal OR Throat swab
3. Write **patient name** and **date/time collected** on the tube. All specimens submitted must have two (2) unique identifiers to include name, date of birth, barcode or other unique identifier on the specimen.
4. Complete requisition form for appropriate testing laboratory.
5. For collection of a nasal specimen: Using a flocked or spun polyester swab, insert the swab at least 1 cm (0.5 inch) inside the nostril (naris) and firmly sample the **nasal** membrane by rotating the swab and leaving in place for 10 to 15 seconds. Sample both nostrils with same swab.
6. For collection of a nasopharyngeal specimen insert the swab into the posterior nasopharynx and rotate it gently. Contact time should be 10 seconds or at least until the patient coughs.
7. For collection of an Oropharyngeal OR Throat specimen insert swab into the posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas. Rub swab over both tonsillar pillars and posterior oropharynx and avoid touching the tongue, teeth and gums.
8. Place the swab into the screw-capped tube containing saline OR viral transport media. Ensure that the caps are closed completely, and the specimen is not leaking.
9. Place specimen along with requisition into specimen bag. Immediately place in a refrigerator (2-8°C). If specimens will not be received within 72 hours they MAY be frozen.
10. Arrange for transportation of specimen to Laboratory as soon as possible after collection.
11. Under FDA guidelines for the COVID-19/Influenza real-time PCR method, samples should be received in the Laboratory within 72 hours at 2-8°C, or frozen.