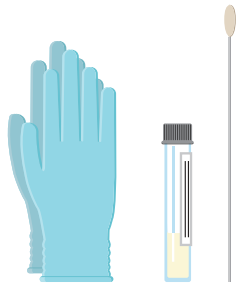


## Nasal (Anterior Nares) Sample Collection Guidelines



### You will need:

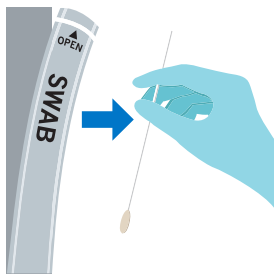
- Personal protective equipment
- (1) swab
- (1) tube of medium
  - Universal transport media (UTM)
  - Viral transport media (VTM)
  - Saline solution

### Before you begin:

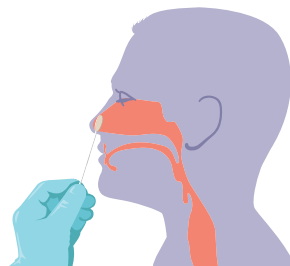
- Wash and dry your hands, then don your personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Verify the patient's name & date of birth.

**Questions? Call Laboratory Client Services at 216.444.5755.**

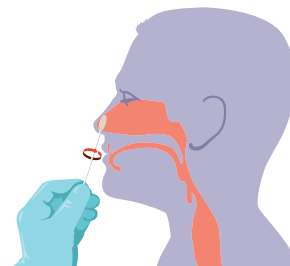
### Specimen Collection



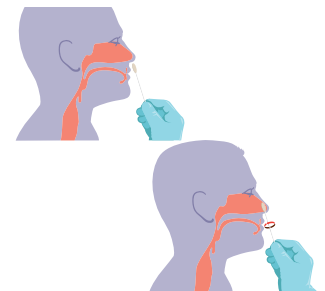
**Step 1:** Unwrap the swab from its wrapper and identify the break point. **Do not touch the swab's tip.**



**Step 2:** Position the patient's head slightly back, then insert the swab into their **LEFT** nostril (less than one inch) and gently push until a slight resistance is met.

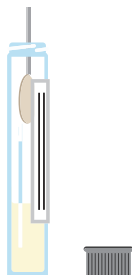


**Step 3:** Rotate the swab against the inside of the patient's nostril four times for 10-15 seconds.

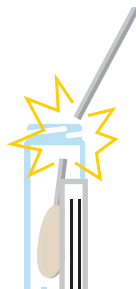


**Step 4:** Remove the swab, then repeat Steps 2 & 3 in the **RIGHT** nostril with the same swab. Remove the swab from the patient's nose when finished.

### Preparing for Transport



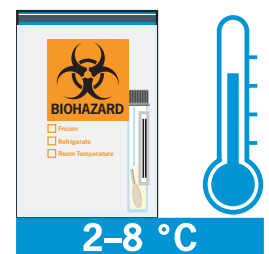
**Step 5:** While holding the swab, open the tube and set the cap down with the threads facing up. Insert the swab into the tube until the breakpoint is level with the tube opening.



**Step 6:** While holding the tube away from your face, bend the swab until it snaps at the break point. You may need to gently rotate the swab shaft to complete the breakage.



**Step 7:** After discarding the remaining swab shaft into an approved disposal container, screw the cap back onto the tube. Apply the test label or write the patient's information onto the tube.



**Step 8:** Place the specimen into a biohazard bag, then insert any lab paperwork into the outside pouch. Refrigerate the specimen during storage and transport to the lab.