

Virus Respiratory Kits (6 Packs)

Instructions for the collection and transportation of clinical specimens for virus culture and direct antigen testing.

The **Virus Respiratory** kit consists of: 6 vials of transport media with nasopharyngeal swabs, 6 biohazard bags and 6 Public Health Laboratory Requisitions.

1. Open the pouched seal pack and aseptically remove the sterile swab from the package - **DO NOT USE EXPIRED KITS.**
2. Collect the specimen from the site involved as early as possible following the onset of symptoms. (see reverse)
3. Aseptically remove cap from vial and insert swab in medium.
4. Break swab shaft evenly at the scored line to fit in tube well below the cap and replace cap to vial closing tightly.
5. Label specimen container with patient's full name and date of collection of sample.
(Two identifiers are required on the patient sample, and these must also appear on the requisition sheet)
6. Place specimen in the biohazard bag and seal bag.
7. Complete the PHL requisition including the PHL test code, source of specimen, date of onset and collection, two patient identifiers, physician name and clinical diagnosis. Insert the completed requisition in the pocket on the outside of the biohazard bag.
8. To maintain optimum viability, the specimen should be stored and transported at 2 - 8°C or on wet ice to the laboratory for processing within 48 hours of collection.

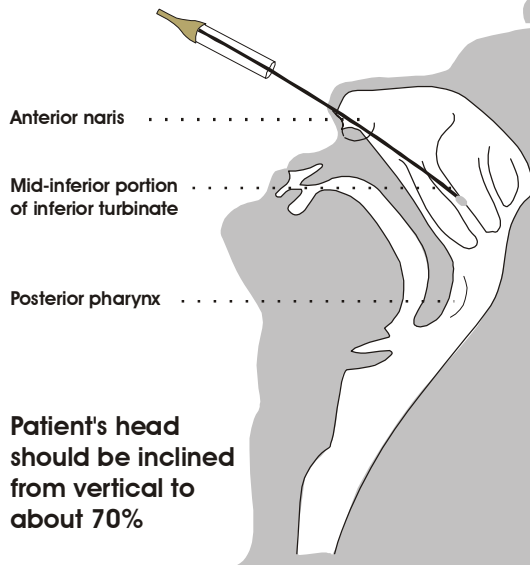
STORAGE - Kits should be stored at 2-25°C until used. Improper storage will result in a loss of efficacy.

TO ORDER KITS or INFORMATION: Contact OAHPP order desk @ Public Health Laboratory Toronto
or @ 416-235-5937 or order by fax @ 416 235-5753



NASOPHARYNGEAL SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Nasopharyngeal swab method for Respiratory Virus Collection



The laboratory needs high levels of organism to culture successfully for respiratory viruses such as RSV, Influenza A & B or parainfluenza virus.

A properly taken nasopharyngeal swab will yield high levels of organism.

1. Insert flexible nasopharyngeal swab into one nostril.
2. Press the swab tip on the mucosal surface of the mid-inferior turbinate.
3. Briefly rotate the swab once it has been inserted.
4. Leave swab in place for a few seconds to absorb material.
5. Withdraw swab and insert into transport medium.
6. Break swab shaft at score line.

N. B. Rule of thumb to determine when swab is placed properly: insert swab to one-half the distance from the tip of the nose to the tip of the earlobe.