

Virus Culture Kits (6 Packs)

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

The **Virus Culture** kit consists of the 6 vials of transport media with large 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.
3. Aseptically remove cap from vial and insert swab in medium.
4. Break swab shaft evenly at the scored line 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 @ 416 235-5937 or order by fax @ 416 235-5753 or your local Public Health Laboratory.