

COVID-19 Nasopharyngeal Specimen Collection with Swab Technique

1. Have the patient blow his or her nose into a tissue to clear excess secretions from the nasal passages.



2. Tilt the patient's head back slightly so that the nasal passages become more accessible.



3. Instruct the patient to close her eyes to lessen the mild discomfort of the procedure.



4. Gently insert the swab along the nasal septum, just above the floor of the nasal passage – nasal pharynx until resistance is felt.



5. Rotate the swab gently against the nasal pharyngeal mucosa for 10 to 15 seconds.



6. Gently remove the swab and place it into the universal transport media container.



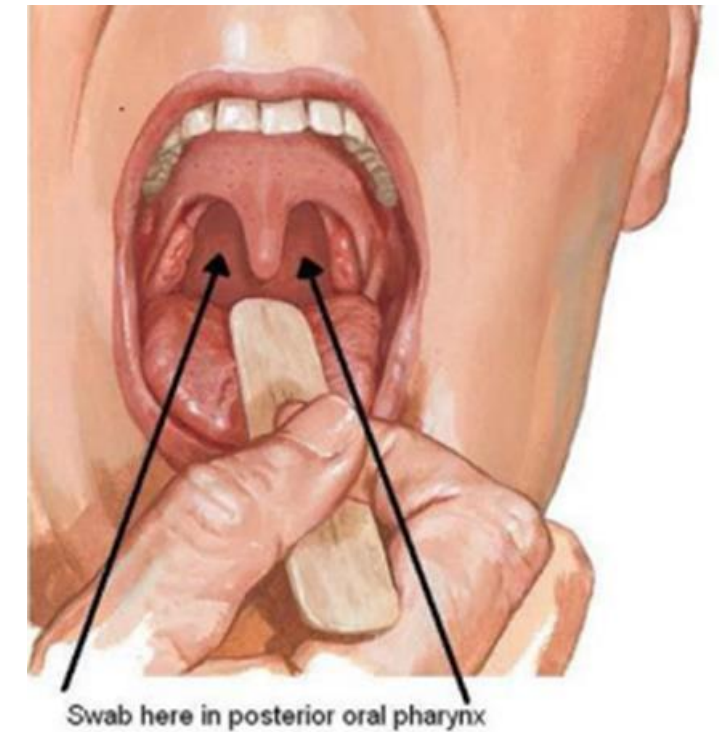
Note: Refer to the How to Use Universal Transport Media tip sheet for further instructions

COVID-19 Oropharyngeal Specimen Collection with Swab Technique

1. Have the patient blow his or her nose into a tissue to clear excess secretions from the nasal passages.
2. Position the patient in a comfortable position such as against the wall so they do not move during specimen collection process.
3. Use the tongue depressor to hold the tongue away from the back of the throat.



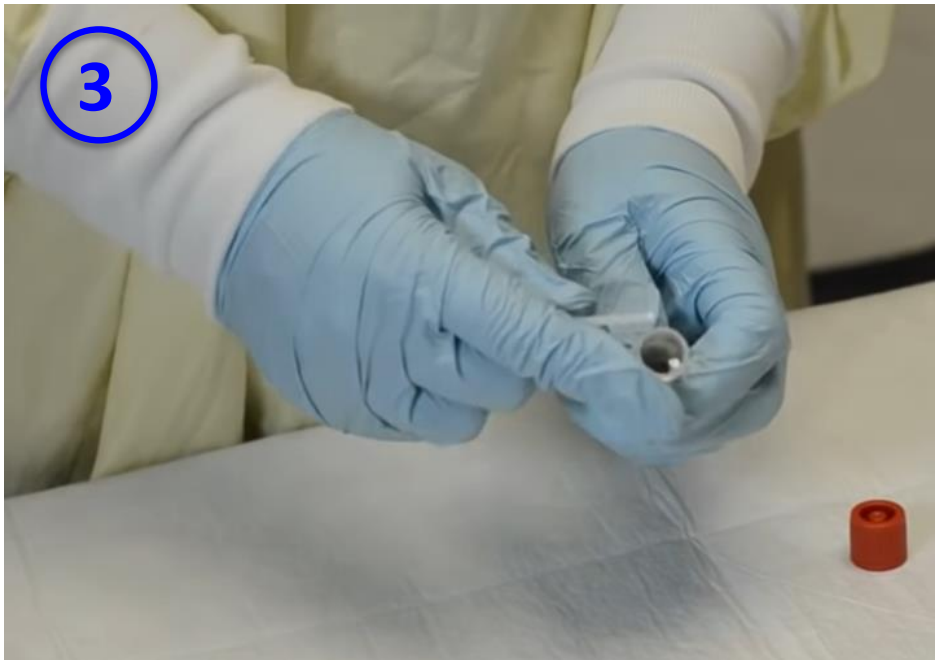
4. Avoid touching the teeth, roof of the mouth, tongue, and gums.
5. Insert swab into the posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas. Rub swab over both tonsillar pillars and posterior oropharynx.
6. Gently remove the swab and place it into the universal transport media container.



Note: Refer to the How to Use Universal Transport Media tip sheet for further instructions

How to use Universal Transport Media

- 1. Place the UTM (universal transport media) on a clean surface so that both hands may be used to collect specimen.
- 2. After obtaining specimen immediately open the media aseptically, without contaminating the swab or cap and insert the swab to bottom.
- 3. Hold the swab stick against the inside rim and away from the face. Break the swab at the pre-molded breakpoint.
- 4. Recap the lid tightly so that no leakage will occur.
- 5. Label the specimen as per hospital protocol.



Picture reference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PV050IUShjo>

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Name: John Smith
DOB: 09/03/1941
Type: OP swab
Collection Date: 03/04/2020
PUI#: TX20200304078
MR#: 896457430921 (if available)