

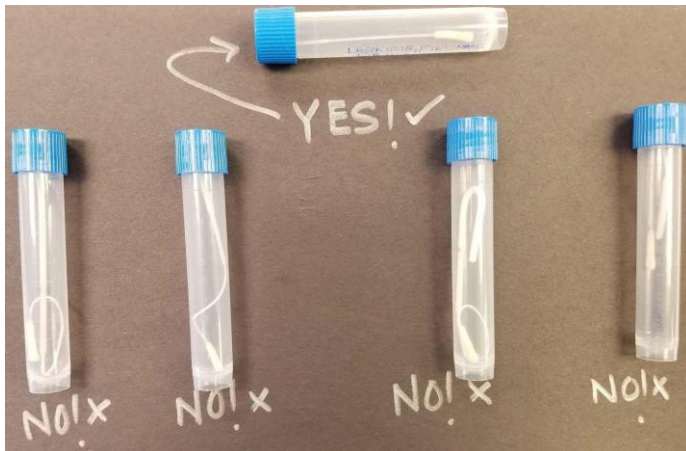
NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB COLLECTION

As part of our Reduced Contact Procedure all Nasopharyngeal Swabs MUST be collected by dedicated facility staff. Below are the instructions for proper collection and transport. HHL staff will provide supplies and will not perform any procedures on residents being swabbed.

How to collect a nasopharyngeal swab

1. Have patient look to the ceiling.
2. Insert the swab into one nostril of the patient, reaching the surface of the posterior nasopharynx.
3. Rotate the swab 2-3 times.
4. Withdraw the swab from the nasal cavity.
5. Break swab off at narrowest part. Swab should fit without coiling into the transport tube.
6. Place swab into acceptable transportation device and properly label.

Nasopharyngeal Swab Method Incline patient's head as shown



Acceptable Swab Types

Nasopharyngeal swab
Flocked swab

NEVER USE

Wound Culture culettes swabs
Wooden shaft swabs
Cotton tipped swabs

Acceptable transportation devices

Pour-off tube – immediate transportation to lab
Viral transport media (Starswab Multitrans
Collection & Transport System, M4)

Specimen Stability

12 hours dry

72 hours in viral transport media

Preferred method of collection and transportation is a pour off tube directly to the lab.