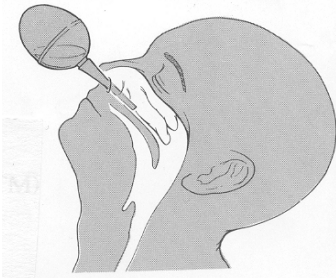


## Physician Office Instructions for Viral and Pertussis Collections

**Multiple tests (depending on quantity) can be performed on these two types of collections, (i.e. RSV and pertussis PCR, viral culture and pertussis PCR, etc.) from only one specimen.**

### Nasal Wash: (Recommended)



Materials: Saline

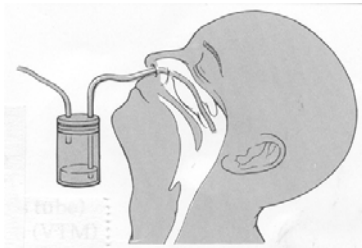
1-2 oz. Tapered rubber bulb\*  
Specimen Container

- Method:
- 1) Suction 3-5 mL saline into a new sterile bulb
  - 2) Insert bulb into one nostril until nostril is occluded
  - 3) Instill saline into nostril with one squeeze of the bulb and immediately release bulb to collect recoverable specimen
  - 4) Empty bulb into suitable dry, sterile specimen container or test tube with cap.

There is also a SYRINGE METHOD using a 3-5 mL syringe and 2 inches of 18-20 gauge tubing. Method is the same; inject saline and quickly aspirate back into syringe.

*\*Length and diameter of syringe, tube, or bulb as appropriate for infant, child, or adult*

### Nasal Aspirate:



Materials: Portable suction pump

Sterile suction catheter  
Mucus trap (i.e. Luken's tube)

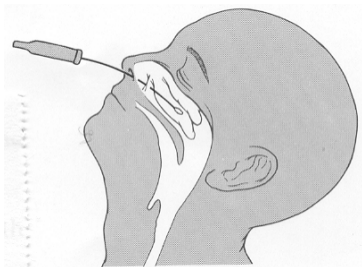
- Method:
- 1) Attach mucus trap to suction pump and catheter, leaving wapper on suction catheter; turn on suction and adjust to suggested pressure (see table).
  - 2) Without applying suction, insert catheter into the nose, directed posteriorly, toward the opening of the external ear.\*\*
  - 3) Apply suction: using a rotating movement, slowly withdraw catheter. Catheter should be in nasopharynx no longer than 10 seconds.
  - 4) Hold trap upright to prevent secretions from going into pump.
  - 5) Rinse catheter with saline (if necessary), disconnect suction, connect tubing to arm of mucus trap to seal.

*\*\*To determine length of catheter tubing measure distance from tip of nose to external opening of ear.*

Patient Age	Catheter Size	Suction Pressure
Premature Infant	6	80-100 mmHg
Infant	8	80-100 mmHg
Toddler/Preschooler	10	100-120 mmHg
School Age	12	100-120 mmHg
Adolescent/Adult	14	120-150 mmHg

**Only one type of test (RSV or pertussis) can be performed per swab on these specimens.**

### Nasopharyngeal Swab:



Materials: Nasopharyngeal swab (see below for type):

**\*Viral or pertussis PCR** – Green top, Dacron or Rayon tip, (NOT calcium alginate), liquid Stuarts transport

**\*Pertussis culture** – Orange top, charcoal, Amies transport (Charcoal swabs are ONLY good for culture, NOT PCR)

Specimen, swab containers or M4 media

- Method:
- 1) Insert swab into one nostril
  - 2) Press swab tip on the mucosal surface of the mid-interior portion of the inferior turbinate, and rub the swab tip several times across the mucosal surface to loosen and collect cellular material.
  - 3) Withdraw swab; insert swab into sterile container or swab container.
  - 4) For viral cultures, BUT NOT PERTUSSIS, immediately insert swab into a vial of M4 media.

*\*Legacy provides both of these swab types through Legacy Laboratory Supply department. Turn around times for pertussis PCR is 72 hours, pertussis cultures up to 16 days.*

**These specimens will not be collected at Legacy Patient Service Centers or Laboratories.**

**Legacy Laboratory Services is here to assist you. If you have questions about this procedure, please call (503) 413-1234 or 1-877-270-5566.**