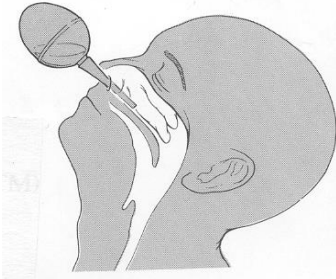


Instructions for Viral and Pertussis Collections

Multiple tests (depending on quantity) can be performed on these two types of collections from only one specimen.

Nasal Wash: (Recommended)



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

Materials: Saline

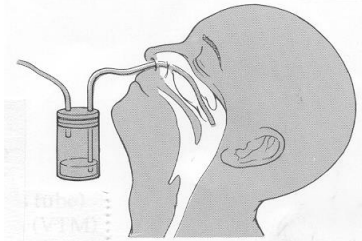
1-2 oz. Tapered rubber bulb*

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.

Nasal Aspirate:



Materials: Portable suction pump

Sterile suction catheter

Mucus trap (i.e. Luken's tube)

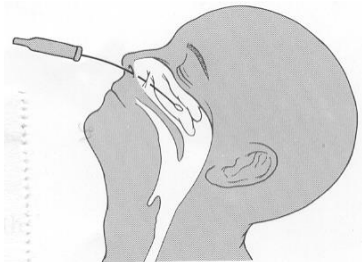
- Method:
- 1) Attach mucus trap to suction pump and catheter, leaving wrapper on suction catheter; turn on suction and adjust to suggested pressure (see table).
 - 2) Without applying suction, insert catheter into the nose, directed posteriorly, toward the opening of the external ear.**
 - 3) Apply 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, remove the cap with the tubing, and securely attach the other lid.

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

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

Primarily 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) with liquid Stuarts transport. Specimen, swab containers or M4 or M4RT media.

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

- 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 PCR immediately insert swab into a vial of M4 or M4RT media. Do Not insert swabs for Pertussis culture into a viral transport tube.
 - 5) Cut or break swabs into M4 (M4RT) media. DO NOT stuff swab handle cap into tube.

**Legacy provides both of these swab types and M4 or M4RT through Legacy Laboratory Supply department.*

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