

1 Before You Begin

- Patient should avoid eating, drinking, smoking or vaping for 30 minutes before the specimen collection.
- Wash hands and wear appropriate PPE (gown, gloves, mask, face shield) if collecting someone else.
- Label the test tube with the **patient's full name, date of collection, and a unique identifier** (e.g., date of birth or Health Card Number).
- **Complete all fields** on the appropriate Test Requisition.

Storage of Unused Kits

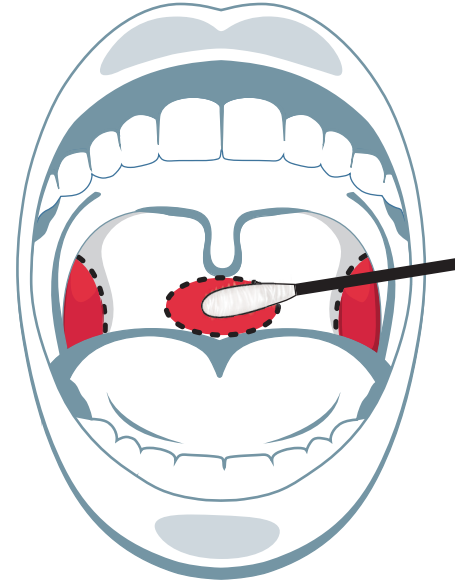
- Unused kits should be stored at 2 to 25°C until used.
- Improper storage will result in a loss of efficacy.
- Kits should only be stored up until their expiry date.

To access detailed guidelines, scan the QR code.



2 Collection Instructions

1. Unwrap the swab by holding the distant end of the shaft.
2. Collect the specimen as illustrated:
 - Insert swab in posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas.
 - Rub swab over posterior pharynx and bilateral tonsillar pillars; **avoid tongue, teeth, and gums.**
 - Immediately place the swab (soft tip first) into the test tube containing transport medium.
3. Break the swab shaft at the breakpoint line—do not bend it.
4. Seal the test tube cap tightly to avoid leakage.
5. Place the specimen in the biohazard bag.
6. Put the **completed requisition** in the outer pocket of the biohazard bag.
7. Wash hands and confirm lab processing instructions.
 - **Collected at home:** keep at room temperature and drop off within 2 hours.
 - **Collected by a health care professional:** The specimen should be stored and transported at 2 to 8°C. If transport will be delayed, specimen should be frozen at -70°C or below and shipped on dry ice.



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