Deep Nasal Collection Kit Instructions

Kit Instructions

1. Open the pouched seal pack and aseptically remove the swab from the package.
2. Collect the specimen from the nose as soon as possible following the onset of symptoms following the procedure below:
   - Place swab 1 inch (2-3cms) into one nostril until resistance is met.
   - Rotate the swab several times against the nasal mucosa.
   - Using the same swab, repeat the above collection procedure in the other nostril.
3. Aseptically remove cap from vial and insert swab in medium.
4. Break swab shaft evenly at the scored line. Replace cap to vial, closing tightly.
   - If there is no score line, break shaft so that it is at least 1-2 cm below the upper lip of the transport media tube.
5. Label the specimen container with: patient’s full name, date of collection and one other unique identifier such as the patient’s date of birth or Health Card Number.
   Failure to provide this information may result in rejection or testing delay.
6. Complete all fields of the COVID-19 Virus Test Requisition, include: the patient’s full name, date of birth, Health Card Number (must match the specimen label), source of specimen, date of onset, date of collection, physician name and address, and clinical diagnosis.
7. Place specimen in the biohazard bag and seal bag.
8. Insert the completed requisition in the pocket on the outside of the biohazard bag.
9. To maintain optimum viability, the specimen should be stored and transported at 2-8°C or on wet ice to the laboratory. If transport of specimen to testing laboratory will be delayed more than 72 hours, specimens should be frozen at -70°C or below and shipped on dry ice.

For further instructions on upper respiratory specimen collection, please follow the US CDC’s information for health professionals Influenza Specimen Collection poster.