
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ORDERING VIAL TRANSPORT MEDIUM, NASOPHARYNGEAL(NP) FLOCKED SWABS AND CADHAM LAB REQUISITIONS

Complete a “Supply Requisitions Form” available at:
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cpl/docs/srf.docx> (appendix F) and submit by fax as instructed on the form.

The LTC site is responsible for pick-up, e.g., courier, cab.

Viral Transport Media (VTM)

- VTM is the only media to be used to transport NP swab
- Shelf life of the viral media is: 3 months at -20° C or 1 week in the refrigerator. It may be refrozen if melted during delivery. The shelf life of re-frozen VTM is 1 ½ months
- Check expiry date on the VTM to ensure medical is not outdated.

Nasopharyngeal (NP) Flocked Swabs

- The nasopharyngeal swabs using the flocked swab are preferred specimens for respiratory virus detection
- NP swabs must be requested at the same time as the VTM. Ask for flocked swabs.

*Six (6) sometimes up to eight (8) specimens can be sent for an outbreak, ensure you have enough VTM and NP flocked swabs on hand **before** an outbreak occurs*

Specimens and requisitions must be couriered “Direct” to Cadham Lab to minimize the deterioration of the specimen. To make arrangements for receipt of specimens to Cadham Lab after hours or during holidays and weekends, please call 945-6123 (Security guard will answer).

Do not hold specimens longer than 24 hours at a refrigerator temperature of 4°C prior to shipping. Do not freeze.