



COLLECTION OF NASOPHARYNGEAL SPECIMENS

Nasopharyngeal Swab (preferred Specimen)

Equipment:

- 1. Nasopharyngeal Swab (refer to Appendix B for an appropriate swab)**
- 2. Viral transport media (refer to Appendix B for an appropriate swab)**
- 3. Cadham Lab Virology Requisition**
- 4. Sterile Scissors**

Procedure:

- 1. Lift nose slightly to get better access to nostril**
- 2. Insert swab into nostril straight back, until gentle resistance is felt.**
- 3. Turn and withdraw swab so that the tip drags lightly across the nasal mucosa. This will be irritating for the resident, but should not be painful.**
- 4. Cut the shaft of the swab so that the tip drops into the viral transport medium with nothing extending above the lip of the bottle.**
- 5. Tightly secure the top of the viral transport media, label the bottle with the name and PHIN using the sticker at the bottom of the completed requisition of each patient before proceeding to the next patient. Transport the swab (s) and the Cadham Provincial Lab requisition(s) to Cadham Provincial Lab without delay.**
- 6. Refrigerate if the specimen cannot be transported immediately. Do not hold specimens longer than 24 hours at a refrigerator temperature of 4°C prior to shipping. Do not freeze.**

Further information can be accessed on the Cadham Lab website Guide to Services 2010 edition pg 55

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cpl/manual2005.pdf>