COVID-19 Panel Collection Method Specifications



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COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Collection of Nasopharyngeal Upper Respiratory Swabs

1. Using laboratory gloves, remove the sterile swab from its plastic packaging. Avoid touching the swab applicator below the molded breakpoint as this could lead to contamination and incorrect test results.

b. Collecting a Nasopharyngeal Swab

i. Have the patient sit with head tilted slightly backward.

ii. Insert flexible nasopharyngeal swab through the nostril parallel to the palate (not upwards) until resistance is encountered, or the distance is equivalent to that from the ear to the nostril of the patient indicates contact with the nasopharynx.

iii. Gently rub and roll the swab. Leave the swab in place for several seconds to absorb secretions before removing.

2. Place Nasopharyngeal Swabs immediately into a sterile vial containing DTPM MTM transporting medium. If two samples are collected from the same patient, both swabs can be placed in the same vial.

3. Aseptically, cut or break applicator sticks off near the tip to permit tightening of the cap.

4. Label the vial with the patient's first and last name, date of birth, the date and time the sample was collected, and the specimen type. Additional comments may also be added.

*Do NOT Freeze patient sample

*Patient sample must be received at the laboratory within 72 hours of collection

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Confirm that the information on the completed Infectious Diseases Test Requisition Form matches the Swab Container or Saliva Tube.

2. Place the swab or tube container into the Bio-hazard Bag along with the Test Request Form

3. The specimen is now ready for shipment via FedEx or courier.