

Anterior Nasal Swab Testing Procedure:

1. Open the package that contains the swab and transport medium tube. Set the tube aside before collecting the specimen.
2. Open the swab wrapper and remove the swab, taking care not to touch the tip of the swab to any surface.
3. Hold the swab in your hand, pinching in the middle of the swab shaft on the scoreline.
4. Insert a nasal swab 1 to 1.5 cm into a nostril. Rotate the swab against the inside of the nostril for 3 seconds while applying pressure with a finger to the outside of the nostril (see Figure 2).



Figure 2. Nasal Swab Collection for First Nostril

5. Repeat on the other nostril with the same swab, using external pressure on the outside of the other nostril (see Figure 3). To avoid specimen contamination do not touch the swab tip to anything other than the inside of the nostril.

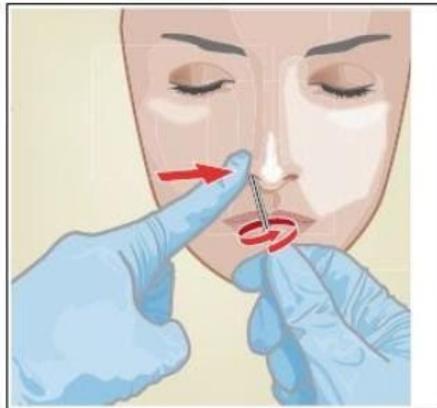


Figure 3. Nasal Swab Collection for Second Nostril

6. Remove the cap from the tube. Insert the swab into the vial.
7. Replace the cap on the tube and close tightly for transport to the lab.