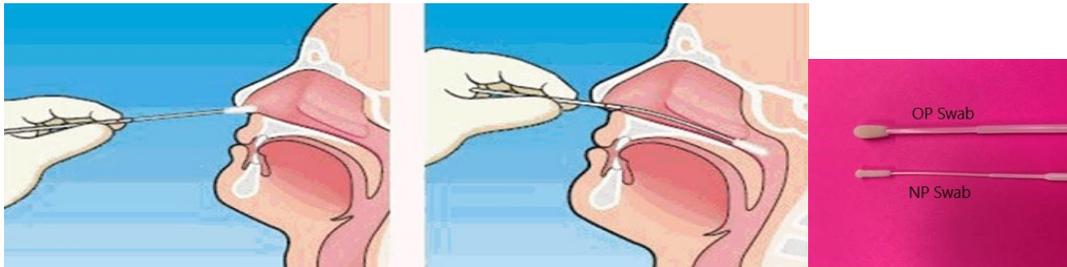


Nasopharyngeal (NP) Specimen Collection for COVID-19 Testing or Respiratory Pathogen Panel Testing

Collection video provided by NEJM: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVJNWefmHjE>

NP swabs should not be used for patients with a history of nasal trauma, bleeding disorders, nasal medications, or deviated septum. These conditions could lead to increased trauma and inaccurate results if the NP swab is used. An OP swab should be used for Covid testing for these patients. Contact the Covid Runner if an OP swab is needed and is not available in your unit/clinic.

- 1) Don appropriate PPE prior to specimen collection per current UIHC guidance.
- 2) Label the transport media vial with specimen label prior to specimen collection.
- 3) Open the collection swab wrapper by peeling open the top of the wrapper. Remove the swab taking care not to touch the tip or lay it down.
- 4) Inset swab into one nostril straight in, not upwards, until resistance is met or until tip is $\frac{1}{2}$ distance from nostril to base of ear.



****smaller swab (NP) ** Do not use large OP swab for nasopharyngeal collection**

- 5) Rotate swab over surface of posterior nasopharynx 2-3 times, do not advance and hold in place for 5 seconds before removing.
- 6) While holding the swab in the same hand, unscrew the transport vial containing liquid media. Place the collection swab into the vial.
- 7) Identify the scoreline on the collection swab shaft, then carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the scoreline and discard the top portion of the swab shaft.
- 8) Re-cap the transport tube and **tighten the cap securely.**
- 9) Double bag specimen in biohazard bags provided.
- 10) Contact Covid swab runner by text to COVID 1 Voalte phone (67)8-0954 to arrange specimen pick up. **NEVER SEND A SWAB SPECIMEN WITH LIQUID TRANSPORT MEDIA IN THE PNEUMATIC TUBE SYSTEM.**
- 11) If specimen transport will be delayed more than three hours, place specimen in a specimen refrigerator.

4/27/21

8/12/20