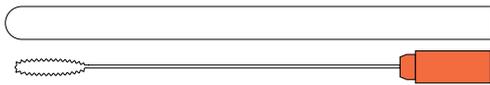


Collection of Respiratory Virus Specimen – Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Laverty Pathology recommends collection of COVID-19 based on the current clinical advice and stock limitations.

Option 1: 1x Orange top flock swab

Plastic shaft swab (No Medium)



Option 2: 1x white flock swab

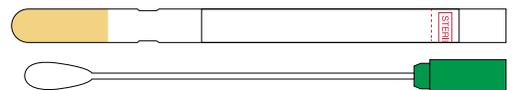
Plastic shaft swab (Viral Transport Medium)



Once
depleted
go to
Option 3

Option 3: 1x Green top swab

Plastic shaft swab (Viral Transport Medium)



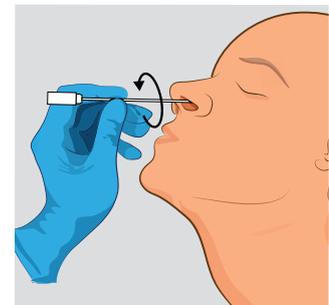
Personal Protection:

- Provide a surgical mask for patient to put on and place patient in isolated room.
- While reviewing the patient, use a disposable, fluid resistant gown, gloves, surgical mask and eye protection.
- While collecting specimens, use airborne precautions, i.e. a N95/P2 mask and eye protection must also be used.
- 1x swab per patient is sufficient.

Collection Method 1: NASOPHARYNGEAL

Note: Green top swab is **not** suitable

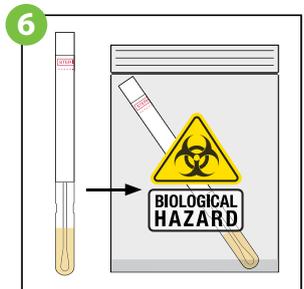
1. Stand to one side and tilt the patient's head back slightly and rest their head against the wall for support.
2. Measure the distance from the nasal opening to where the lower ear joins the face. This is the distance the swab should be inserted to reach the nasopharynx.
3. Insert swab into one nostril and advance to the pre-measured distance. If the nostril is blocked, try the other side. If the nasal passage bleeds, cease the collection. There is no requirement to collect from both nostrils.
4. Rotate swab gently and withdraw it carefully.
5. Put the swab directly into the transport tube. Snap off the swab shaft at the scored mark if necessary (option 2). Secure the lid tightly.
6. Store and transport at room temperature.
7. On completion of collection remove PPE.
8. Immediately upon removing PPE, wash hands and arms up to the elbow with soap and water.
9. Label specimen with surname, first name, date of birth, date and time of collection and the site the sample was collected (nasopharyngeal). Have the patient confirm the details recorded on the specimen are correct.



Collection of Respiratory Virus Specimen – Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Collection Method 2: NASAL

1. Stand to one side and tilt the patient's head back slightly and rest their head against the wall for support.
2. Insert the swab tip into the nostril as far as the anterior end of the nasal turbinate, parallel to the palate (approx. 2-3 cm in adults).
3. Leave the swab in place for a few seconds then slowly withdraw using a rotating motion.
4. Put the swab directly into the transport tube. Snap off the swab shaft at the scored mark if necessary (option 2). Secure the lid tightly.
5. Label the tube with patient's name, date of birth, date of collection and site from which the specimen was collected (e.g. left nostril). Have the patient confirm the details recorded on the specimen are correct.
6. Store and transport at room temperature.



Collection Method 3: THROAT

1. Stand to one side and tilt the patient's head back slightly and rest their head against the wall for support.
2. Ask the patient to open the mouth and say "Aaaah".
3. Depress the tongue with a tongue depressor. Note: this procedure can induce the gag reflex.
4. Swab the back of the throat and the tonsil area on both sides. Avoid the soft palate and do not touch the tongue with the swab tip.
5. Put the swab directly into the transport tube. Snap off the swab shaft at the scored mark if necessary (option 2). Secure the lid tightly.
6. Label the tube with patient's name, date of birth, date of collection and site from which the specimen was collected (throat). Have the patient confirm the details recorded on the specimen are correct.
7. Store and transport at room temperature.

