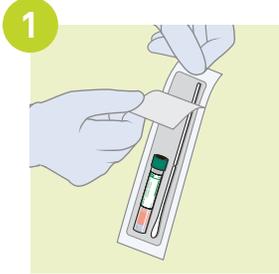
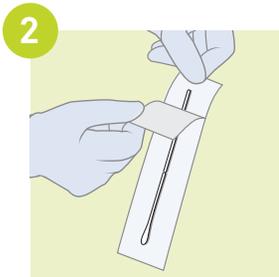


Nasopharyngeal Specimen Collection

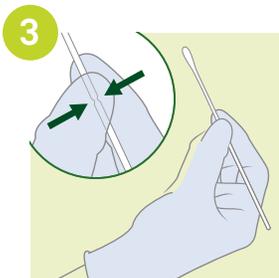
Influenza A and B and RSV RNA, Qualitative, Real-Time RT-PCR



1 **Open the individual collection package** that contains the swab and Viral Transport Medium tube. Set the tube aside before beginning to collect the specimen.



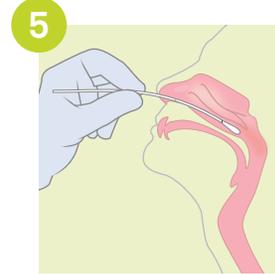
2 Open the collection swab wrapper by peeling open the top of the wrapper.
Remove the swab, taking care not to touch the tip of the swab or lay it down.



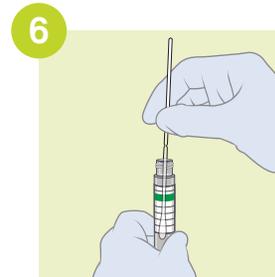
3 **Hold the swab in your hand**, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft across the scoreline.



4 **Gently insert the swab** into the nostril. Keep the swab near the septum floor of the nose while gently pushing the swab into the post nasopharynx.



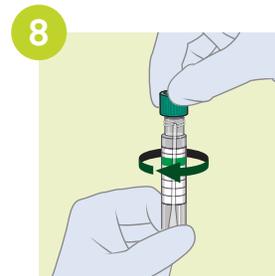
5 As a visual reference, the swab should be inserted about half the distance from the opening of the patient's nostril and the ear.
Rotate the swab several times.



6 While holding the swab in the same hand, aseptically remove the cap from the tube.
Insert the swab into the tube with the transport medium.



7 Identifying the scoreline, **break the swab shaft** against the side of the tube. If needed, gently rotate the swab shaft to complete the breakage.
Discard the top portion of the swab shaft.
Avoid splashing contents on the skin.
Wash with soap and water if exposed.



8 **Replace the cap** onto the tube and close tightly.
Specimens should be transported at 2–8° C.
Prior to testing, specimens may be stored for 24 hours at 2–30° C or up to 7 days at 2–8° C.

CAUTION: Nasopharyngeal specimen collection poses risks to the patient and should only be performed by trained healthcare professionals. This illustration is only an aid for helping to train healthcare professionals and should not be used as a substitute for adequate training and supervision.

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