

## TECHNIQUE FOR OROPHARYNGEAL SAMPLE

1. Don appropriate PPE.
2. Perform hand hygiene before patient contact.
3. Introduce yourself to the patient.
4. Verify the correct patient using two identifiers, using specimen label.
5. Explain the procedure and ensure that the patient agrees to treatment. Determine the patient's understanding of the purpose of the procedure and the patient's ability to cooperate. Obtain assistance for collecting the specimen as needed.
6. Instruct the patient to sit erect and face the patient.
7. Have the appropriate swab and sterile culture tube ready for use. If using a prepackaged swab in a tube, loosen the top so the swab can be removed easily.
8. Instruct the patient to tilt the head back.
9. Ask the patient to open the mouth and say "ah."
10. Depress the anterior third of the tongue with a tongue blade and observe for inflamed areas of the pharynx or tonsils. **Do not place the tongue blade along the back of the tongue; doing so is likely to initiate the gag reflex. If the patient gags, remove the tongue blade and allow the patient to relax before reinserting it.**
11. Insert the swab without touching the lips, teeth, tongue, cheeks, or uvula.
12. Gently but quickly swab the tonsillar area from side to side.
13. Carefully withdraw the swab without touching the oral structures.
14. Immediately insert the swab into the sterile culture tube and push the tip into the liquid medium at the bottom of the tube.
15. Place the top securely on the culture tube.
16. Place the labeled specimen in a biohazard bag.
17. Provide patient with myChart flyer and reinforce that test results will only be provided through myChart. Patient should isolate per CDC guidelines and monitor symptoms.
18. Report unusual test results to the clinical team leader.
19. Discard supplies, remove PPE, and perform hand hygiene.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR OROPHARYNGEAL SAMPLE COLLECTION

USING FLOCKED SWAB AND UTM™ UNIVERSAL TRANSPORT MEDIA

## COLLECTION SUPPLIES

- Swab (1)
- Tube of medium (1)



## COLLECT THE SAMPLE



Wash hands with soap and water and don personal protective equipment.



**1** Remove the swab from its packaging, holding by the end of the applicator and identify the breaking point.



**2** Position head slightly back.



**3** Depress the tongue so that the back of the throat can be seen.



**4** Rub the swab up and down against the back of the throat, avoiding the tongue and cheeks.

## PACKAGE THE SAMPLE



**5** While holding the swab, remove the cap from the tube.

- Insert the swab into the tube until the breakpoint is level with the tube opening.
- Bend the swab shaft at a 180 degrees angle to break it off at the breaking point. You may need to gently rotate the swab shaft to complete the breakage.



**6** Discard the broken part of the applicator into an approved waste disposal container.



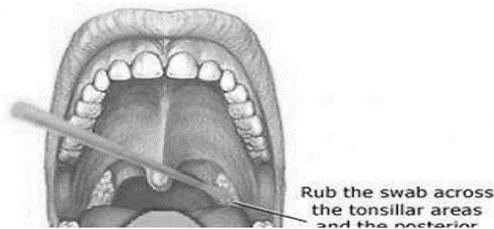
**7** Screw the cap back onto the tube and apply patient identification label or write patient information on the tube label.



Wash hands with soap and water.

## TECHNIQUE FOR OROPHARYNGEAL SAMPLE COLLECTION

Place swab into the back of the mouth, swabbing both tonsillar areas, being careful to avoid the tongue, teeth and gums.



I have reviewed the Oropharyngeal sample collection training.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_