

Throat Collection Tip Sheet

Specimen

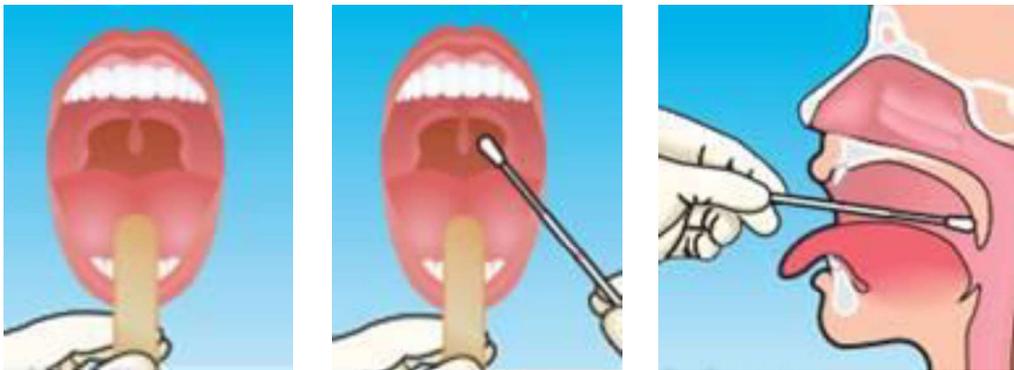
The preferred specimen is an ESwab with a flocked swab. The sample must have an affixed specimen label after collection.

Materials

- Throat Swab (ESwab with flocked swab)
- Tongue Depressor
- Biohazard Bag
- PPE

Procedure

1. Identify the patient.
2. Wash hands or use antimicrobial hand gel.
3. Put on proper PPE.
4. Explain the collection procedure to the patient.
5. Remove the ESwab from the packaging making sure not to contaminate the swab by touching anything with the exposed swab.
6. Have the patient open their mouth wide, say “AHH,” and stick out their tongue. Using the tongue depressor, press the tongue down and out of the way.
7. Insert the swab into the mouth until the swab touches the back of the mouth/throat area. Swab the area around the tonsils focusing on any puss pockets, red, or inflamed areas. Do not touch the tongue, uvula, or cheeks.



8. After swabbing the area(s), place the swab into the tube.
9. Label the specimen in the presence of the patient and place into a biohazard bag.
10. Remove PPE.
11. Wash hands or use antimicrobial hand gel.