

CENTEGRA CLINICAL LABORATORIES
McHenry/Woodstock, Illinois

NASOPHARYNX

Nasopharyngeal specimens may be submitted for the detection of carriers of *Streptococcus pyogenes* (beta Streptococcus Group A), *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*, and *Bordetella pertussis*.

Nasopharyngeal washes, aspirates, and swabs may be submitted for the detection of *Respiratory Syncytial Virus* (RSV) and/or Influenza virus.

Cultures of the anterior nares is not indicated for the diagnosis of respiratory tract infections or inner ear infections. Nasal swabs are submitted primarily for the detection of staphylococcal carriers.

SUPPLIES:

Mini-Tip Culturette - A rayon-tipped swab on a flexible and extendable aluminum wire with a transport tube containing Modified Stuart's Bacterial Transport Medium.

PROCEDURE:

1. Carefully insert the Mini-tip culturette through the nose into the posterior nasopharynx. Rotate the swab gently and maintain in the nasopharynx for at least 15 seconds.
2. Return swab to the tube making sure that the tip is in contact with the moistened sponge.
3. For *Bordetella pertussis* cultures or PCR, place the swab directly into Reagan-Lowe media.

TRANSPORT:

Transport promptly to laboratory.

If transport is delayed, swab can be stored at room temperature for up to 24 hours.