

TITLE: Nasopharyngeal (NP) Collection

LOCATION: System-wide | **Audience:** All sites / All ages / all role providing NP specimen collections

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 9, 2021

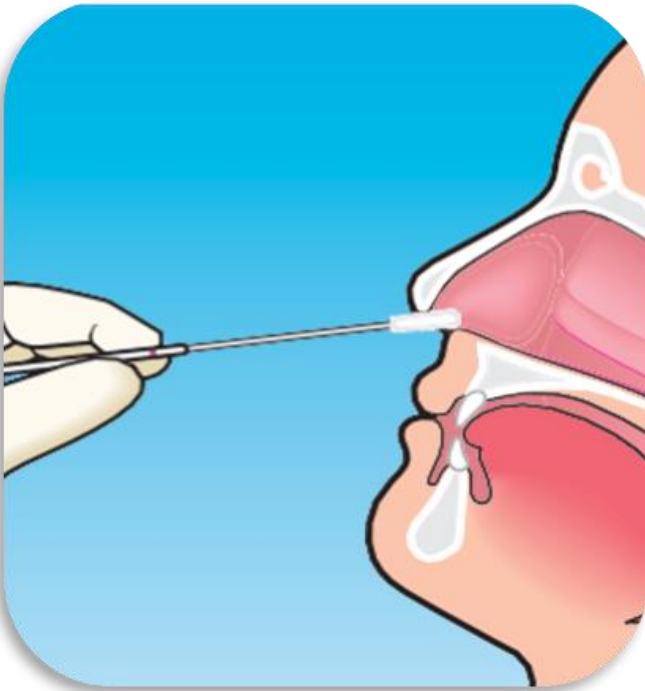
CONTACT: Obiageli Ozumba ozumbao@slhs.org

PREPARED BY: Obiageli Ozumba and Michele Harris

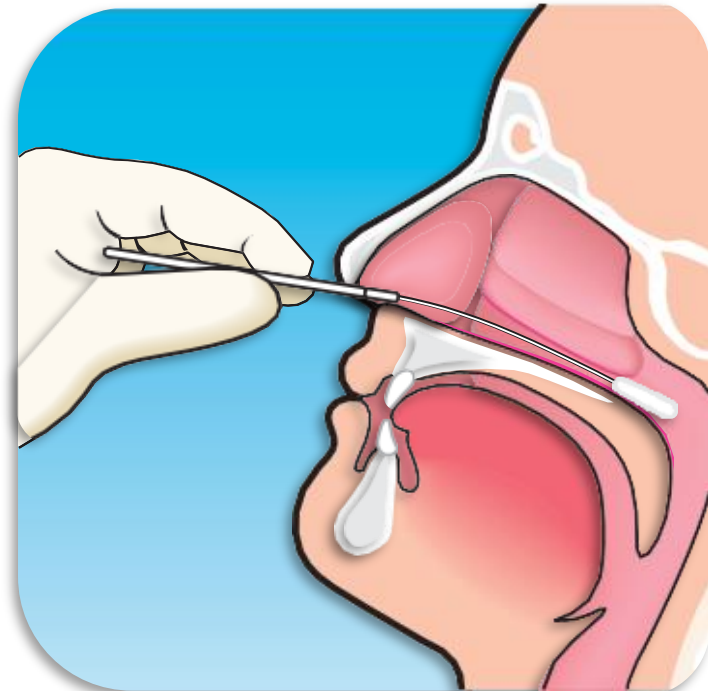
APPROVED BY / DATE: 9/9/2021

RATIONALE: UPDATES to NP collection instructions. Reviewed and approved using Evidence Based Practice review and Subject Matter Expert input.

Required PPE during specimen collection: gown, gloves, procedural mask and face shield.



- 1) Tilt patient's head back 70 degrees.
- 2) Gently insert the flexible shaft along the nasal septum just above the floor of the passage to the nasopharynx until resistance is met.
- 3) Gently rub and roll the swab 2 to 3 times against the nasopharyngeal mucosa. Allow it to remain in place for several seconds to absorb secretions then slowly and gently remove the swab.



- 4) If a deviated septum or blockage create difficulty in obtaining the specimen from one nostril, use the same swab to obtain the specimen from the other nostril.
- 5) After the swab is removed from the patient, place it in the appropriate transport container.
- 6) Label container with the patient identification information.