

# Respiratory Specimen Collection Guide for Laboratory Testing

## Covid- ED/IP/\*STAT Outpatient collection

Nasopharyngeal (NP) or Mid-Turbinate Collection

Storage: **Room Temperature**  
**Place NP swab into dry sterile container.** If using the blue conical tube, make sure to break the applicator shaft off at line. **Send specimen to the Lab STAT Testing must be completed within 1 hour of collection.** Refrigerated: NA Frozen: NA

\*Outpatient STAT collections at sites not performing Abbott ID Now will Route to ARUP with 24-96 hr. turn around time. If faster Turn around time is required, patient should be tested using POCT method or the patient sent to location where Abbott ID Now is available.



## Covid- Routine Outpatient collection

ARUP Transport Media

With OP/Nasal swab (ARUP#56409)

With NP swab (ARUP #12884)

OR

NP, OP or Nasal Swab in UTM

Storage: Room Temperature or Refrigerated 2-30°C up to 2 days

(Transport to ARUP Frozen)



or



## Influenza and RSV

Quidel/Copan Flexible mini-tip flocced Nasopharyngeal swab and UTM.

Storage: Room Temperature

RSV: 8 hours

Influenza A/B: 72 hours



### \*\*FOR RSV TESTING\*\*

Patient 18-59 years will route to ARUP Collect UTM

Storage/transport: Refrigerated 2-30°C 72 hours

## MRSA- Nasal

Liquid Amies- **White** top eSwab with included swab.

Storage: Room Temperature transport to the lab as soon as possible (within 2 hours)

Refrigerated 2-8°C for 48 hours



## Rapid Respiratory Panels

UTM and Nasopharyngeal swab

Storage: Refrigerated 2-8°C

recommended following collection and while in transit if not tested immediately.



## Point of Care Testing

Use only swab included in test kit.

Follow test kit instructions for collection.

### Updated Collection Requirement 1/7/2025

## Rapid Strep A Throat- Swab Culture EZ Double with NO additive.

Collect using both swabs.

Room Temperature transport to the lab as soon as possible

Storage: Room Temp storage: 72 hours

Refrigerated 2-8°C for 72 hours



Updated 12/16/2024

Contact Shannon Preece [preece@slhs.org](mailto:preece@slhs.org) with questions or concerns