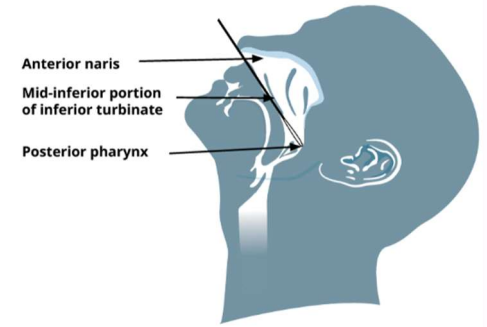


Specimen	Nasopharyngeal	
Collection Materials	Virus respiratory pack containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ specimen tube containing viral transport medium ▪ flexible plastic NP swab ▪ requisition form ▪ sealable plastic biohazard bag 	Personal protective equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gloves ▪ Gown ▪ Protective mask ▪ Eye protection
Collection Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perform hand hygiene 2. Put on gown, gloves, a facemask and a face shield. 3. Check expiration date of collection kit. DO NOT USE EXPIRED KITS. 4. Ensure patient has NOT ingested food / drink, chewed gum, smoked, or vaped for at least 30 min prior to collection. Ask patient to blow nose into tissue to clear excess secretions from nostrils. 5. In a seated position, tilt patient's head back 70 degrees. 6. Insert flexible shaft swab mini-tip through the nose straight back (not upwards) until you hit resistance (about half the distance from the patient' ear to their nostril). 7. Gently rotate the swab several times against the wall of the nose and let it sit for a few seconds to absorb secretions. 8. Slowly withdraw swab and insert into transport medium provided. Snap off excess wire and cap vial tightly. 9. Label the specimen tube with the resident's name, date of collection, and one other unique identifier such as DOB or HCN. 10. Place the specimen tube into the large plastic pouch of the biohazard plastic bag and seal it closed. Place the completed requisition in it in the outside pocket. Refrigerate specimen if immediate transportation to the lab is not possible. 11. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene. Remove personal protective equipment and repeat hand hygiene. 	



Tilt the head back at a 70° angle as illustrated in the picture.

Important Reminders:

- The Public Health Lab may reject specimens and may not perform testing if instructions are not followed.
- Ensure the specimen container is labelled and cap is closed tightly. Unlabeled specimens will not be tested.
- Respiratory specimens can be stored in refrigerator for up to 5 days – transport on ice in warm weather
- Samples must be transported in the designated public health lab BLUE transport bag to the local PUBLIC HEALTH LAB as soon as possible.

COVID-19 and Respiratory Virus Test Requisition Completion Instructions:

1. **1 – Submitter**
The box must have the Local Public Health Unit information including Medical Officer of Health name
2. **2 – Patient Information**
 - The resident's name, date of birth, sex and health card number **must** be completed.
 - **Address** is the name and location of the facility.
 - A Public Health Unit **Outbreak Number must be indicated** on the form, as provided by the PHU at the start of the Outbreak.
3. **5 – Test Requested:** Choose "COVID-19 Virus AND Respiratory Viruses"
4. **6 – Specimen Type And Collection Date:** Choose "NPS" & "institution / all group living settings"
5. **7 – Patient Setting:** Select "Institution / all group living settings"
6. **8 – Clinical Information:** Select as appropriate.

