

Collection Guide for obtaining a nasopharyngeal specimen for isolation of *Bordetella pertussis* by Nucleic Acid Amplification

In collection of this specimen, use **ONLY** the blue-top BBL CultureSwab™ on a flexible wire shaft provided by Metropolitan Medical Laboratory, PLC. Do not use wooden shafted swabs or calcium alginate swabs.

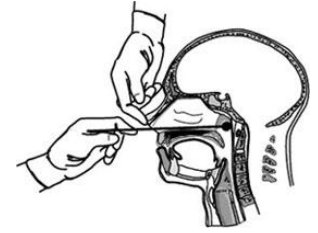


Image: Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, 4th ed. 2008

NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB COLLECTION

- Collect posterior nasopharyngeal specimens as soon as possible after symptoms develop. Specimens may be collected up to 3-4 weeks after onset of cough as long as antibiotics have not been started.
- Wear mask, gloves, and eye protection to prevent exposure during the specimen collection process.
- For pediatric patients, obtain assistance from a second person to aid in specimen collection. Patients must be kept still lying on their backs during the procedure to avoid injury or contaminated specimens. One person should hold the patient's arms, and steady the patient's chest so the patient does not roll.
- Have the patient blow his/her nose to remove excess mucous. For pediatric patients, clean the anterior nares of any secretions or exudates with a swab or suction bulb.

- The patient's head should be tilted slightly backward.
- Gently pass swab(s) through the nostril to the posterior nasopharynx. **DO NOT** force. Resistance will be felt when the posterior nasopharynx is reached.
- Rotate the swab and ideally leave in place for 10-30 seconds or until the patient coughs.
- Place the swab back into the dry sterile COPAN transport tube with sponge. **Ship specimen to Metro refrigerated** (2-8°C).

Videos for watching proper swab and aspirate collection can be found on the CDC website at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/clinical/diagnostic-testing/specimen-collection.html>
 (Note: Be sure to use the collection swab provided by Metro Lab, which is somewhat different from the one shown in the video.)

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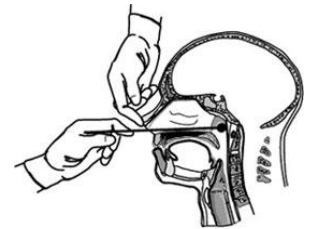


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BLUE-TOP BBL CultureSwab™

This swab may be used for collections requiring a flexible shaft & mini-tip (e.g. eye, urethral, nasopharyngeal). Consult the specimen requirements in our reference guide at:

www.metromedlab.com

or call Client Service at
(309) 762-7295

**IF ORDERING BLUE-TOP BBL
Culture Swab for *B. pertussis*:
instructions for collection
are on the reverse.**

**For questions or clarification please
call our Client Service Department
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