Nasal Specimen Collection Instructions

Supplies Needed are in kit: 1) Appropriate NP Swab size; 2) Viral Transport Media

1. Choose the correct NP swab based on the patient’s age
   Swabs are sized as follows:
   1) Pediatric for Age < 2 years
   2) Adult for Age > 2 years

2. Tilt the head of the patient backwards to an angle of 70°. Gently insert the swab through one nostril and into the nasal passage as far as the molded ring on the shaft OR until resistance is felt. The patient may be in a sitting or lying position.

3. Remove the swab from patient’s nasal passage and insert into the tube of viral transport medium. Break the plastic shaft swab at the break point line. Replace the cap and screw on tightly.

   Rotate the swab 2 or 3 times and then hold the swab in place for 5 seconds to absorb the sample material.

Note:
1) For pertussis specimen: use a separate swab and place in sterile tube only (no media)