INFLUENZA AND RSV TESTING COLLECTION

1. Specimen Collection:
   a. Nasopharyngeal Swab Sample: It is important to obtain as much secretion as possible.
      i. Using the swab that comes with the UTM (Universal Transport Media), carefully insert the
         swab into the nostril.
      ii. Keep the swab near the septum floor of the nose while gently pushing the swab into the
         posterior nasopharynx.
      iii. Rotate the swab several times.
      iv. With the same swab repeat the process on the other side of the nose.

2. Break the swab off in the UTM (Universal Transport Media)
3. Deliver to the lab immediately. If testing is delayed refrigerate at 2 - 8⁰
4. Please note: 1 swab for both nares

Rice Memorial Hospital Stock: NP Swabs were previously in med rooms.
                                  UTM device will now be stocked on the carts (stocked by Material Management).

The new swab process is also acceptable for the Influenza Surveillance testing for MDH, (one
swab/collection is all that is needed).