

COVID-19 Sample Collection Kits for Upper Respiratory Tract Specimens

March 5, 2020



Due to the recent 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we have been getting many inquiries about what type of swabs, media, and kits should be used for COVID-19 sample collection prior to testing. Below we have a short guide on which COPAN products meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens for Coronavirus investigations](#).

Which Type of Swab Should be Used to Collect Samples to Test for Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

As outlined in the CDC guidelines for the collection and handling of clinical specimens suspected of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), for upper respiratory tract samples, health workers should **only use synthetic fiber swabs with plastic shafts**, like COPAN [FLOQSwabs®](#). It is important not to use calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden shafts when testing for COVID-19. These swabs can contain substances that inactivate some viruses and can inhibit PCR testing [1].

How Should Collection Kits be Used for Coronavirus (COVID-19) Testing?

In the CDC Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the CDC recommends taking a **nasopharyngeal AND oropharyngeal swab (NP/OP swab)** from PUI for COVID-19 for upper respiratory tract samples. The CDC guidelines also direct healthcare workers to place swabs immediately into sterile tubes containing 2-3 ml of viral transport media, like COPAN [UTM® Universal Transport Medium](#) [1].

COVID-19 Sample Collection Kits and Components that Meet the CDC's Guidelines

COPAN makes [COVID-19 collection and transport kits](#) that are compatible with the CDC-recommended configuration that pairs 3mL of UTM® universal viral transport medium and a nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal flocked swab.



Pre-packaged COVID-19 Kits

Also, Healthcare Providers can quickly assemble in-house sample collection kits and place the items in a Ziploc/Minigrip bag for distribution using the following COPAN item numbers:

UTM® 330C – 3 mL UTM® Medium in 16x100mm Tube

FLOQSwabs® 503CS01 – Flexible Minitip (Nasopharyngeal) Flocked Swab with 100mm Breakpoint









FLOQSwabs® 519CS01** – Regular Flocked (Oropharyngeal) Swab with 100mm Breakpoint















Individual Orderable Components: 3mL UTM®, one regular FLOQSwab®, One Flexible Minitip FLOQSwab®

COVID-19 Sample Collection





UTM® Sample Collection Kits

Product Line	COPAN (Manufacturer)	Type	Description	Hardy/ Healthlink	BD	Fisher Healthcare
 	305C	Nasopharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Flexible Minitip Flocked Swab + 3 mL UTM® Viral Transport Media in 100 mm Tube	3C036NHL	220531	23001720
 	307C	Nasopharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Minitip Flocked Swab + 3 mL UTM® Viral Transport Medium in 100 mm Tube	3C037NHL	220529	23001721
 	306C	Oropharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Regular Flocked Swab + 3mL UTM® Viral Transport Medium in 100 mm Tube	3C038NHL	220528	23001722
 	360C	Nasopharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Flexible Minitip Flocked Swab + 1 mL UTM® Viral Transport Medium in 80 mm Tube	3C040NHL	220526	23001724

UTM® Transport Media & Flocked Swabs Sold Separately

Product Line	COPAN (Manufacturer)	Type	Description	Hardy/Healthlink	BD	DHI/Quidel	Fisher Healthcare
 UTM®	330C	Transport Media Only (no swab included)	3 mL UTM® Medium in 16x100mm Tube	330CHL	220220	330C.DHI	23001718
<i>The above item can be paired with the swabs below.</i>							
 Flocked Swab	503CS01	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Flexible Minitip Flocked Swab with 100 mm Breakpoint in Peel Pouch		220252	503CS01.DHI	23600952
 Flocked Swab	553C	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Flexible Minitip Flocked Swab with 100 mm Breakpoint in Dry Tube				23600961
 Flocked Swab	518CS01	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Minitip Flocked Swab with 100mm Breakpoint in Peel Pouch		220251		23600956
 Flocked Swab	518C	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Minitip Flocked Swab with 100mm Breakpoint in Dry Tube				23600963
 Flocked Swab	519CS01	Oropharyngeal Flocked Swab	Regular Flocked Swab with 100 mm breakpoint in Peel Pouch		220250		23600957
 Flocked Swab	519C	Oropharyngeal Flocked Swab	Regular Flocked Swab with 100 mm breakpoint in Dry Tube				23600964
 UTM®	350C	Transport Media Only (no swab included)	1 mL UTM® Medium in 12x80mm Tube	3C030NHL	220244		23001719
<i>The above item can be paired with the swabs below.</i>							
 Flocked Swab	501CS01	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Minitip Flocked Swab with 80 mm Breakpoint in Peel Pouch				23600950
 Flocked Swab	551C	Nasopharyngeal Flocked Swab	Minitip Flocked Swab with 80 mm Breakpoint in Dry Tube				23600959
 Flocked Swab	502CS01	Oropharyngeal Flocked Swab	Regular Flocked Swab with 80 mm breakpoint in Peel Pouch				23600951
 Flocked Swab	552C	Oropharyngeal Flocked Swab	Regular Flocked Swab with 80 mm breakpoint in Dry Tube				23600960

ESwab™ Sample Collection Kit

Product Line	COPAN (Manufacturer)	Type	Description	BD	ThermoFisher	Hardy/Healthlink	VWR	Fisher Healthcare
 eSwab™	480C	Oropharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Regular Flocked Swab + 1ml Liquid Amies Medium in 80 mm Tube	220245	R723480	480C	89136-654	23600900
 eSwab™	480CFA	Oropharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Regular Flocked Swab + 1ml Liquid Amies Medium in 80 mm Tube (no capture cap)			480CFA	76181-494	23600905
 eSwab™	481C	Nasopharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Minitip + 1ml Liquid Amies Medium in 80 mm Tube	220526	R723481	481C	89136-656	23600901
 eSwab™	482C	Nasopharyngeal Sample Collection Kit	Flexible Minitip + 1ml Liquid Amies Medium in 80 mm Tube	220532	R723482	482C	89136-658	23600902

Distributor Links:

[Hardy/ Healthlink](#) [Becton Dickinson \(BD\)](#) [DHI/ Quidel](#) [Fisher Healthcare](#)

Contact Us Here for More Information!

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, February 14). Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Guidelines for Clinical Specimens. Retrieved February 27, 2020, from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>

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