

Nasopharyngeal Wash specimen collection for COVID-19 testing

There are a number of means to collect a Nasopharyngeal Wash depending on the equipment you have available.

1

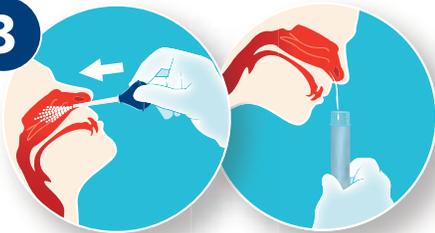
- Have the patient sit in a comfortable position with the head tilted slightly backward.
- Advise the patient to help keep the pharynx closed by saying “K” while the washing fluid (usually physiological saline) is applied into the nostril.

2



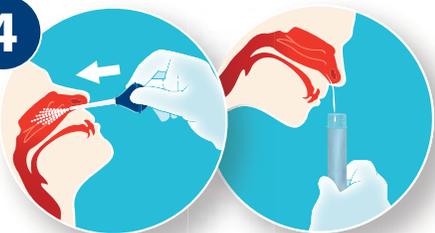
Instill approximately 1-2.5 mL of physiological saline into one nostril using a rubber bulb, syringe with tubing, or transfer pipette.

3



Tilt the patients head forward and allow the fluid to collect into a screw cap sputum collection cup or sterile dry container.

4



Repeat for the other nostril and collect fluid into the same container as the first nostril wash.

5



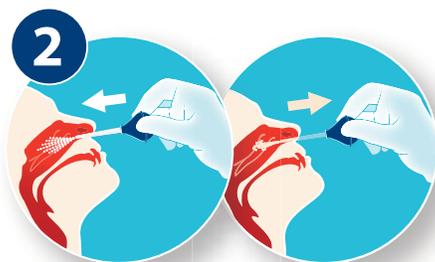
- Secure container, label and place into a biohazard specimen bag.
- Freeze specimen and keep frozen.
- Submit sample on one requisition with test code 139900 – COVID-19. Patient's name, complete address and phone number must be included.

Nasopharyngeal Aspirate specimen collection for COVID-19 testing

There are a number of means to collect a Nasopharyngeal Aspirate depending on the equipment you have available.

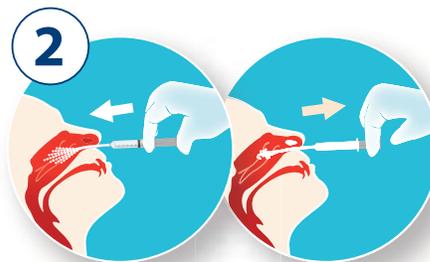
- 1
 - Have the patient sit in a comfortable position with the head tilted slightly backward.
 - Advise the patient to help keep the pharynx closed by saying "K" while the washing fluid (usually physiological saline) is applied into the nostril.

If using suction bulb

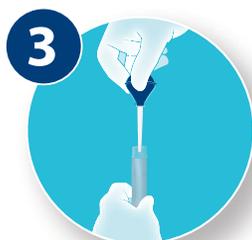


2 Instill approximately 1-2.5 mL of physiological saline into one nostril using one squeeze of the rubber bulb. Immediately release bulb to collect nasopharyngeal secretion.

If using a syringe



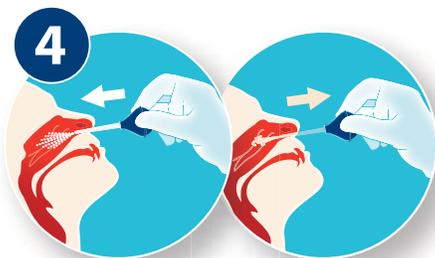
2 Instill approximately 1 – 2.5 of physiological saline into one nostril using a syringe with tubing. Immediately aspirate to collect the nasopharyngeal secretion.



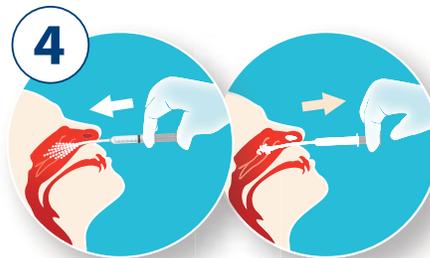
3 Collect fluid in a screw cap sputum collection cup or sterile dry container.



3 Collect fluid in a screw cap sputum collection cup or sterile dry container.



4 Repeat for the other nostril and collect fluid into the same container as the first nostril aspirate.



4 Repeat for the other nostril and collect fluid into the same container as the first nostril aspirate.



- 5
 - Secure container, label and place into a biohazard specimen bag.
 - Freeze specimen and keep frozen.
 - Submit sample on one requisition with test code 139900 – COVID-19. Patient's name, complete address and phone number must be included.



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