

NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB COLLECTION FOR COVID-19

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- ▶ BY THE END OF THE LEARNING ACTIVITY THE STUDENT WILL:
  - ▶ BE ABLE TO GATHER EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR TESTING;
  - VERBALIZE STEPS REQUIRED FOR TESTING INCLUDING PRE AND POST PROCEDURE;
  - ► EDUCATE PATIENTS REGARDING THE PROCEDURE AND PARTICIPATION;
  - ▶ DEMONSTRATE PROPER TESTING TECHNIQUE; AND
  - DEMONSTRATE PROPER HANDLING OF SPECMEN

# Supplies Needed

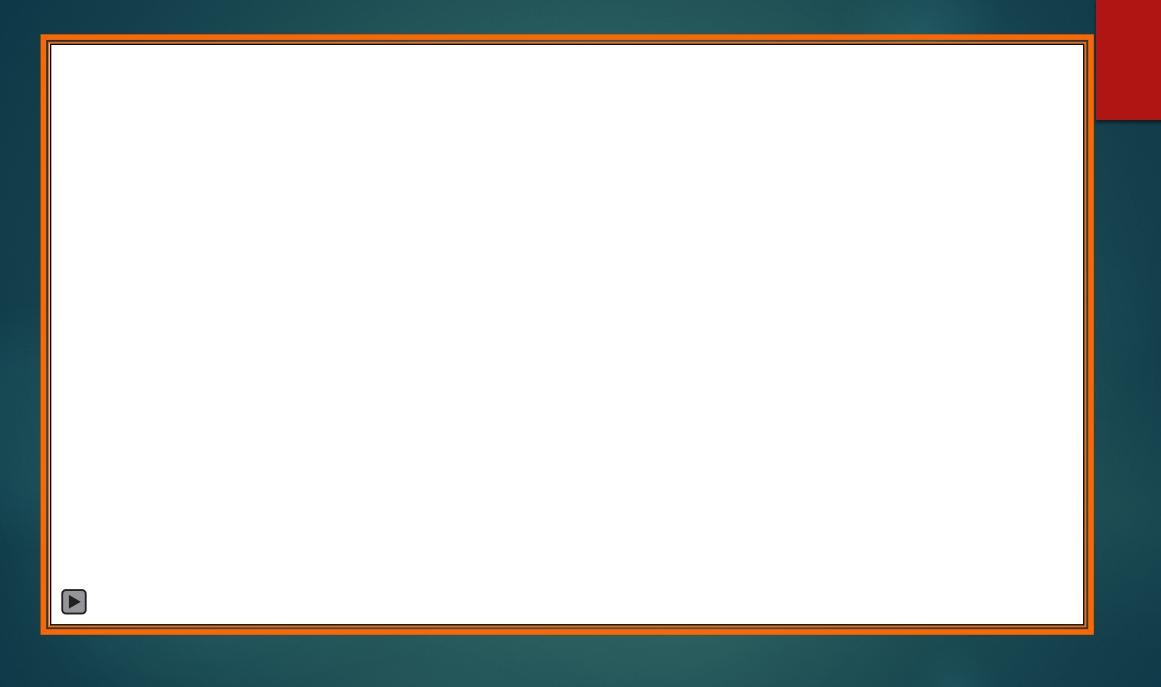
- Nonsterile gloves, gown, or face mask, and google or face shield<sup>(1)</sup>
   (2) (3) (5)
- ▶ Specimen collection kit(s) intended to detect SARS-CoV-2, including swabs with synthetic tip and plastic (not wooden) shaft<sup>(7)</sup> (8) (5) (7)
- Small sterile specimen container if collecting a sputum sample
- Biohazard bag

## Pre-Procedure Steps

- Review patient's identification and review the process with them:
  - Appropriate patient position and comfort
  - explain process and that their may be some slight discomfort
- Replace swab into the transport tube and secure
- Make sure that specimen is handed off to lab technician
- Follow standard pre-procedure steps, as appropriate. (12)

## Procedure Steps

- Use meticulous hand washing and aseptic non-touch technique throughout procedure to prevent disease transmission.
- Put on a gown, gloves, face mask or, and googles or face shield in the correct order before initiating specimen collection (1) (2) (3) (5)
- ▶ Have patient sit upright for specimen collection, if possible.
- ▶ To obtain nasopharyngeal specimen (priority specimen type for diagnosis):(1) (5) (7) (8)
  - ▶ Have patient tilt their head back 70°. Use non-dominant hand to support back of head, as needed.
  - ▶ Inspect nasal passages for obstruction. Avoid collecting specimen collection from an obstructed nostril.
  - If there is a lot of mucus in nose, have patient wipe or blow nose because mucus can interfere with obtaining a good specimen.
  - Open test kit and remove swab. Verify swab is intended for nasopharyngeal specimen collection. Do not allow swab
    to come into contact with any surface.
  - ▶ Holding swab at score line, insert swab into nostril parallel to palate until tip is roughly at level of anterior ear.
  - If resistance is met, withdraw swab slightly, elevate tip, and reinsert. Do not use force when inserting swab.
  - ▶ Rotate swab several times to obtain specimen. Leave in place a few seconds to allow absorption.
  - Remove swab and place in collection tube with sterile transport medium.
  - ▶ Break swab at score line. Place lid on collection tube and close tightly.



### PATIENT EDUCATION

- Inform individual that results will be sent to both them and employer
   (6) (7)
- Evaluate person briefly for any nasal injury

### POST-PROCEDURE

- Remove gloves, goggles or face shield, and gown in appropriate order
  - ▶ Discard personal protective equipment in an appropriate waste container.

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