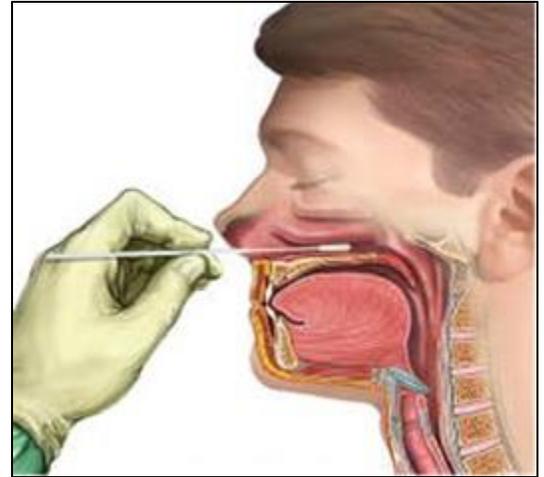


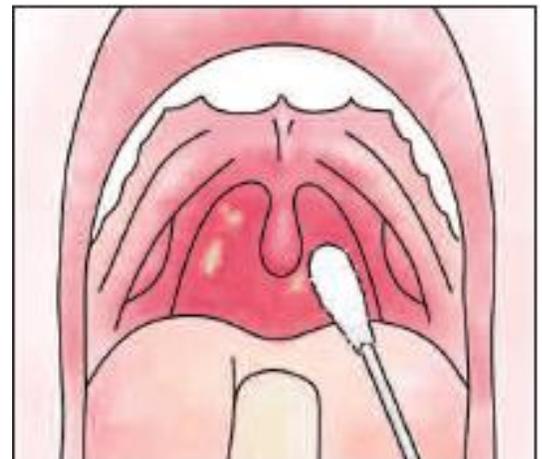
### Nasopharyngeal Swab Collection

1. Label the viral transport vial with the name, date of birth, and time of collection.
2. Properly put on personal protective equipment.
3. If possible, have the patient blow their nose to clear nasal passages. If they are unable, wipe nostrils with a cotton swab or tissue.
4. With the patient's head level with the ground or tilted very slightly back, insert the swab through one nostril straight back along the floor of the nasal passage until you touch the back of the throat. This is usually about halfway from the corner of the nose to the front of the ear. Do not angle upwards. Do not push hard if you meet resistance.
5. Leave the swab in place for 10 to 15 seconds, and rotate the swab gently. Remove straight back out.
6. Repeat collection in the other nostril.
7. Open the vial and place the swab inside. Break the swab tip off (it may have a scored line) and recap the vial securely.
8. Properly remove PPE when complete. If samples from multiple people are being collected, change gloves and perform hand hygiene between each patient. Intact gowns, goggles, face shields, and respirators do not need to be changed each time unless heavily contaminated. Be sure not to touch any PPE with bare hands while changing gloves.



### Oropharyngeal Swab Collection (Throat Swab)

1. With the patient's head tilted slightly back, have them open their mouth wide. You need a good view of the back of the mouth and throat. They may need to stick out their tongue, or you may need to use a tongue depressor, to be able to see.
2. Carefully insert the swab into the back of the throat, trying to touch the tonsils and the very back of the throat. Be quick and careful as the patient may gag.
3. Remove the swab without touching the swab tip on the tongue, teeth, or cheeks.
4. Reopen the vial and place the swab inside. Break the swab tip off (it may have a scored line) and recap the vial.
5. Place the vial in a specimen bag.
6. Properly remove PPE when complete. If samples from multiple people are being collected, change gloves and perform hand hygiene between each patient. Intact gowns, goggles, face shields, and respirators do not need to be changed each time unless heavily contaminated. Be sure not to touch any PPE with bare hands while changing gloves.



Please see PPE Donning and Doffing Guideline for instructions regarding PPE.

Training video for NP swab collection: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVJNWefmHjE>

Training video for OP swab collection: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bedJdXAK6F4>