

How to collect a throat swab specimen

- Use sterile swab with transport media
- Perform hand hygiene, put on gloves and surgical mask prior to performing specimen collection
- Ask patient to tilt their head backward, open their mouth
- Use the tongue depressor to hold tongue in place
- Holding colored cap of swab, swab pharynx and tonsils (without touching the tongue or cheeks)
- Insert swab firmly into transport media in the transport tube
- Label specimen
- Check request form is complete
- If concern regarding possibility of melioidosis or diphtheria, ensure this is clearly documented on the request form
- Transport to laboratory immediately after collection



Collection of Throat swabs

