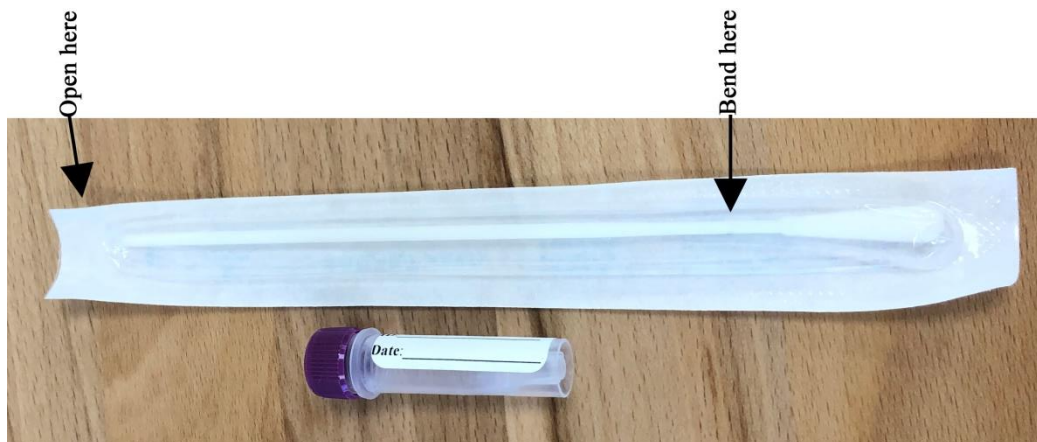


## SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS FOR iAMP-COVID-19 TESTING

**USE:** To collect nasopharyngeal or Oropharyngeal specimens for 2019-Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes COVID-19.

**KIT CONTENTS:**

- 1 Nasopharyngeal/Oropharyngeal swab (smaller swab, flexible shaft) (CDC recommended)
- 1 Specimen Tube for swab specimen transport



**COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS:**

See the current CDC guidelines for respiratory specimen collection and appropriate biosafety precautions for healthcare workers found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/caring-for-patients.html>

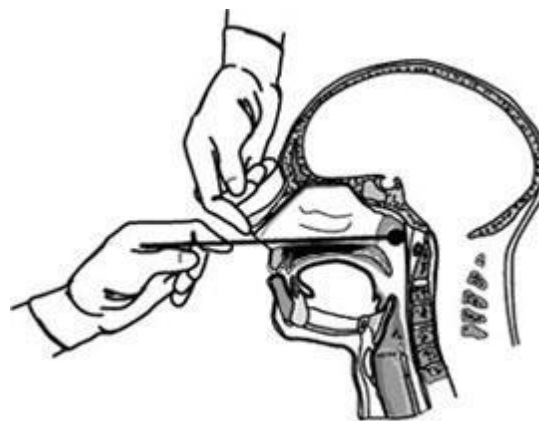
- Label specimen tube of legibly with the patient's name **and** date of birth (specimen tube **must** have two unique patient identifiers on it, or it will not be tested).

**Nasopharyngeal (NP) specimen: (CDC recommended specimen type)**

- Use the flexible shaft NP swab provided to collect the specimen. NOTE: If an alternate swab is used, the swab tip **must be synthetic (ex: polyester, rayon, or dacron)**.

*Cotton or calcium alginate tipped swabs are unacceptable*

- Have the patient blow their nose and then check for obstructions.
- Tilt the patient's head back 70 degrees & insert the swab into nostril parallel to the palate (not upwards) until resistance is encountered or the distance is equivalent to that from nostrils to outer opening of patient's ear indicating contact with nasopharynx. Leave swab in place for



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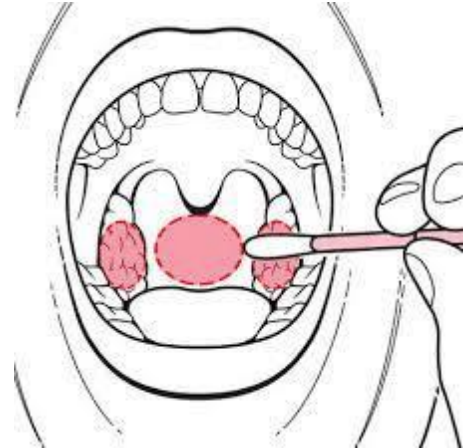
several seconds to absorb secretions. Slowly remove the swab while rotating it.

- Insert the swab into the specimen tube.
- The swab shaft extends past the top of the tube. Snap off at the bend/break line on the shaft, allowing the end with the swab tip to remain in the tube. Cap the vial and discard the swab stem/handle.

### Throat specimen (Oropharyngeal swab [OP]):

**If nasopharyngeal specimen cannot be collected due to inability to procure np swabs, a throat swab can be sent as an alternative specimen. NOTE: Throat swab tips must be synthetic (ex: polyester, rayon, or dacron). Cotton or calcium alginate tipped swabs are unacceptable**

- Use a throat swab to collect specimen by swabbing the patient's posterior pharynx and tonsillar area (avoid the tongue).
- Insert the swab into the specimen vial. The swab shaft extends past the top of the tube, bend at the notched point, or clip it, allowing the end with the swab tip to remain in the tube. Cap the vial and discard the swab stem/handle.



### NEXT STEPS:

- Securely tighten the cap on the specimen tube and recheck to make certain it is labeled with two patient identifiers. Write "NP" or "OP" on the specimen tube. Put the specimen tube into specimen transport bag and close bag tightly.
- Complete the electronic test requisition form (TRF). For test requested, select "iAMP-COVID-19" under Comments/Other test requests, complete all necessary entries, and signatures from patient and provider, and submit the completed eTRF to Otogenetics. Print out the completed TRF if you have access to a printer. Place the completed form into the outside pocket of the specimen bag. Do **not** enclose it inside the bag with the specimen tube.

### HOLDING:

**Preferred:** ship same day as swab collection, on ice pack overnight delivery.

**If cannot ship immediately:** refrigerate (no more than 1 day), and ship overnight on ice pack.

**If longer duration than 1 day before shipping:** freeze at -70°C, and ship on dry ice for overnight delivery.



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### PACKAGING:

Specimens must be packaged and shipped in accordance with appropriate Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations for Category B Biological Substances.

- Place the securely sealed Ziploc bag containing the specimen tube **along with the frozen ice pack** into a styrofoam box that is contained within a cardboard shipping box. If using an alternate type of packaging, make certain it is compliant and labeled appropriately for Category B Biological Substances.
- Ensure that the outer packing box is sealed securely with packaging tape.
- Ensure shipper label information for your facility is completed in full and affixed to the outer package.

### TRANSPORT:

Submitters are responsible for arranging for specimens to be transported to the Otogenetics Laboratory. (ex: commercial courier). ClinPak can be used if the specimen box can fit into the ClinPak envelop. Ship to:

Otogenetics Corporation  
4553 Winters Chapel Rd  
Atlanta, GA 30360

### FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING SPECIMEN COLLECTION, PACKAGING AND SHIPPING:

Call the Otogenetics Laboratory at 855-686-4363 and ask to speak with the person who can assist with COVID-19 packaging and shipping questions.