

Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

Respiratory Panel (BioFire RP2.1)

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Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)*
Nasopharyngeal Swab (NP Swab)	At illness. For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect only using synthetic tip swabs (ex. Dacron, Nylon, Polyester) with non-wooden shaft. Immediately after collection, place swab directly in 2-3mL of Viral Transport Media (VTM). Minimum volume: 2mL of VTM. 	Viral Transport Media (VTM) or Universal Transport Media (UTM)	<p>Transport device: Sterile leak-proof container with VTM/UTM.</p> <p>Rejection Criteria: Not transported in VTM. Swab on wooden shaft.</p> <p>Transport: Refrigerate and ship to arrive at WA PHL during business hours within 72 hours of collection. Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.</p> <p>Ship as Category B.</p> <p>Storage: Refrigerate. If arriving at WA PHL after 72 hours of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C.</p>

*All specimens must be shipped meeting IATA, OSHA, and USPS requirements. NA: Not Applicable

General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated or frozen properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Did not obtain CDE approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

NOTE:

Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient's county of residence, and second identifier.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.
- Reason for testing at WAPHL.

Collection kit availability

Not available.

Comments

For Medical Examiners, please see: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5240/302-021-GuidanceMedicalExaminers-2362.pdf>

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