

# NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB PROCEDURE

## BACKGROUND

GenesPrint Cotton Tip Applicator / Nucleic Acid Collector is used for the detection of respiratory viruses such as RSV, influenza virus A & B, parainfluenza virus, or COVID-19t. A properly collected viral swab (one naris is sufficient) is necessary for detection of these organisms.

- A** Assemble supplies: GenesPrint Cotton Tip Applicator / Nucleic Acid Collector. Check expiry date. Personal protection equipment (i.e., mask, gloves, eye protection, gowns). Requisition and label, biohazard bag. Note: please ensure the seal is not broken.



- B** Explain procedure to patient.

**C** Put on appropriate personal protective equipment (at a minimum, gloves and face mask) to protect yourself in case the patient coughs or sneezes while you are collecting the specimen.

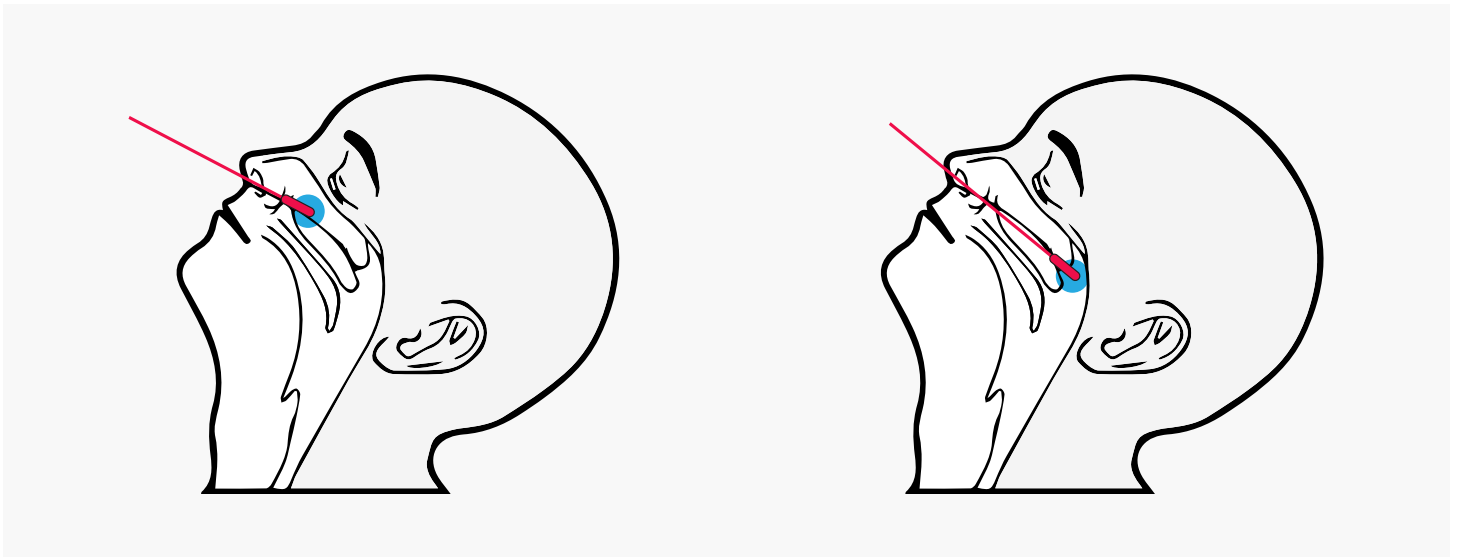
**D** If the patient has a lot of mucus in his/her nose, this can interfere with the collection. Ask the patient to use a tissue to gently clean out visible nasal mucus before a swab is taken. Viruses may locate in cells that line the surface of the inner nose.

**E** Seat patient in a comfortable bed. It is best if the patient is placed in a High Fowler's position in bed with the back of the head supported. It may be necessary to have a second person available to assist with collection.

**F** Swab Collection.

Nasopharyngeal Swab with GenesPrint Cotton Tip Applicator / Nucleic Acid Collector

- Enter the applicator/collector several centimeters with a slow, steady motion along the floor of the nose (straight back, not up the nose) until the posterior nasopharynx has been reached (distance from nostrils to external opening of ear).
- Place finger on the tip of the patient's nose and depress slightly.
- Once resistance is met (the applicator/collector should pass into the pharynx relatively easily), rotate the applicator/collector several times and withdraw the applicator/collector.



- G** Place in transport medium.
- H** Remove personal protective equipment, wash hands.
- I** Ensure the specimen is labeled, and transport to the laboratory with completed requisition.