

Specimen Collection in Community Locations- Lab Guidance

1. For information on measles test ordering and specimen collection, please refer to the IH Microbiology Laboratory Test Directory located here:

[IH Microbiology Laboratory Test Directory](#) (search under “M” for measles)

2. Further resources available on InsideNet [Lab Sample Collection Toolkit](#)

3. How to collect a NP Swab– [nasopharyngeal-flocked-swabs-and-utm.pdf](#)

Ensure specimen container is labelled with:

- a. Patient name.
 - b. PHN.
 - c. DOB.
 - d. Collection date and time.
 - e. Test/Source: filled in by RN.
 - f. Somewhere: patient collected (for urine).
4. Samples are to be refrigerated at 2-8°C after collection– in a temperature monitored refrigerator to maintain sample integrity.
 - a. Includes urine, NP, and throat swabs.
 - b. Patient would keep urine refrigerated prior to transporting to facility.
 - c. Record date and time sample collected.
 - d. Thermometer options if required:
 - i. VWR Traceable Fridge/Freezer– 50 to 70°C eRex # 1039565
 - ii. VWR Enviro-Safe Thermometer– 50 to 15°C eRex#0115710
 5. BCCDC [Virology Requisition](#) must be completely filled out with:
 - a. Patient first and last name.
 - b. Date of birth and PHN.
 - c. Test.
 - d. Source of specimen.
 - e. Collection date and time.
 - f. Collector initials or mnemonic.
 - g. Ordering provider: first and last name, billing number, address, phone & fax number:
 - a. **Indicate the provider to be called if results Positive.**
 - b. Copy to providers.
 6. Refer to [IH Clinical Guide to Packaging Laboratory Sample for Transport for Non-Lab Staff](#) for:
 - a. Packaging instruction.
 - b. Required equipment.
 - c. Ordering information.
 - d. Labelling and documentation.
 - e. Transport samples refrigerated to nearest IH Laboratory (2-8oC).

- f. Staff must have current TDG ground Certificate for Category B for packaging and transporting samples (iLearn #538).
- 7. Communicate to IH laboratory when samples to arrive at Lab.