



Patients should not eat, drink, smoke, or use oral hygiene products for at least 10 minutes prior to collection process.

Examiner should thoroughly wash hands with soap and water for 3 minutes.

Appropriate personal protective equipment (including gloves and a mask) should be worn by examiner.

1. **Ask patient to open mouth** and say “ah” to make rear wall of oropharynx clearly visible. *(Alternatively, a tongue depressor can be used in center of tongue – not supplied)*
2. **Insert swab** to the rear wall of oropharynx and avoid touching teeth, tongue, gum.
3. **Swab left side of oropharynx**, pooled secretions and cheek **(with one side of flat swab)** for 5-10 seconds. *(Figure 1)*
4. **Swab right side of oropharynx**, pooled secretions and cheek **(with the opposite side of flatswab)** for an additional 5-10 seconds. *(Figure 2)*
5. **Swab the anterior 2/3rds of tongue** with both sides of the captiswab. *(Figure 3)*
6. **Swab head should be immediately ejected** into sterile vial by activating the button mechanism. Please hold the swab right at the entrance of the bottle as release can make the swab fly off. *(Figure 4)*
7. **Screw back the bottle cap**, avoiding any contact with the inside of the vial. The swab should not be touched at any point. *(Figure 5)*
8. **Transport sample** to laboratory per protocol.

