

Collection and Packaging of B. pertussis Specimens



Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Supplies Needed for Collection



Regan-Lowe Media
Polyester or Dacron Swab
Transport Tube



Outreach or
Laboratory Form 219



Multi-shipper
with Cold Pack



Multi-shipper

Collecting Specimens for B. pertussis

- 1) Make sure two identifiers are on the specimen label and name is correct on lab slip.
- 2) Fill out Outreach or lab form completely.
- 3) Wash your hands and explain the procedure to the patient.
- 4) Pass the swab through the nares until resistance is met (until it reaches the nasopharynx). Allow the swab to rest in place until coughing is induced. If this does not occur place second swab in the second nares in the same manner and leave them both in place until a coughing fit is induced then remove swab(s).



Note:

A throat swab is not acceptable. The perinasal is more effective than a throat swab because the organism attaches to the cilia on the respiratory cells of the nasopharynx.

Swabs made of cotton and/or wood are NOT accepted.

Culture

Submerge swab fully into Regan-Lowe transport media, break off excess swab and secure the lid.

1. Place tube with specimen in tube shuttle and put in 95kPa bag.
2. Place sample bag on top of frozen freezer blocks and replace styrofoam lid.
Do not place media tube directly on ice pack.
(Cold weather – place sample bag into bottom of Styrofoam and replace lid.)
3. Place lab form on top of Styrofoam box.
4. Close box and place label on box.



PCR

Place the swab into the plastic transport tube.

1. Place specimens in tube shuttles.
2. Place tube shuttles in plastic container.
3. Place bubble wrap and lab form around outside of plastic container.
4. Close box and place label on box.

