

Collecting Specimens for *B. pertussis* PCR

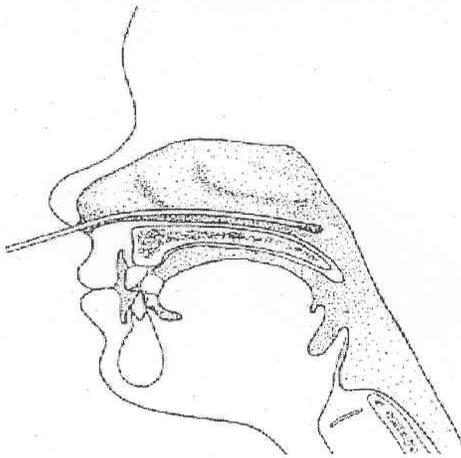
Materials needed

- Polyester or Dacron swab with plastic or aluminum shaft (swabs made of cotton and/or wood are **NOT** accepted)
- Original tube for swab (if swab from state provided kit) or screw cap tube
- Special Micro submission form 219

Collection procedure

1. Wash your hands and explain the procedure to the patient.
2. Pass the swab through the nares until resistance is met (until it reaches the nasopharynx). Allow the swab to rest there until a coughing fit is induced. If the patient does not cough insert a second swab into the other nares in the same way and leave both swabs in place until a coughing fit is induced then remove swab(s).
3. Place the swab into the plastic tube.
4. Label the tube appropriately.
5. Package and send the swab with the completed submission form 219 or Outreach form to the laboratory.

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.



How to Package Your Specimen



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. Put in box. Place laboratory label on box.

