

NASOPHARYNGEAL WASH WITH MECHANICAL SUCTION

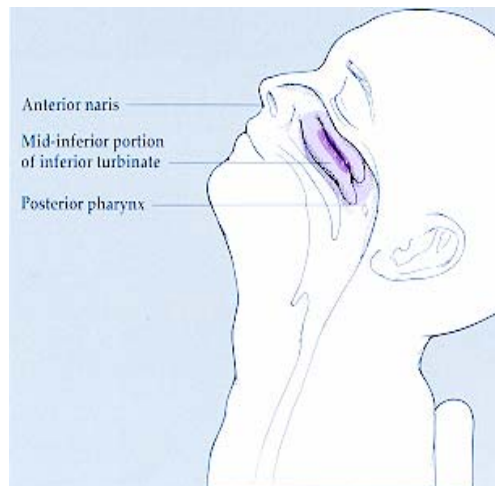
GOAL: Collect ciliated columnar respiratory epithelial cells from posterior nasopharynx for virus tests

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Personal protective equipment
 Facial tissue
 Sterile nonbacteriostatic saline (e.g. bullets)
 Suction pump or wall suction
 DeLee suction trap with attached suction catheter

<u>Patient Age</u>	<u>Catheter size</u>	<u>Suction pressure</u>
Premature	6	80-100 mm Hg
Infant/Toddler	8	80-100 mm Hg
School Age	10	100-120 mm Hg

Sealable biohazard bags
 Shipping container with cold pack (outside clients)



COLLECTION METHOD

NOTE: Use two care providers for this technique if possible, one to hold the patient and the other to collect specimen.

1. Don PPE. Remove excess mucus from patient's nose with facial tissue.
2. Determine length of suction catheter by measuring distance from tip of nose to external ear opening. Mark with thumb and forefinger.
3. Attach trap to suction tubing, leaving wrapper on suction catheter. Adjust suction to appropriate pressure.
4. Tilt patient's head back slightly beyond "sniff position." Instruct older patients not to swallow.
5. Add 0.5-4 ml saline to nostril (amount depends on patient's size) to loosen secretions and dislodge cells.
6. Gently insert tube into nostril and posterior pharynx until the thumb and forefinger touch the patient's nose.

NOTE: Don't use lubricants other than saline to aid tube insertion.

7. Apply suction while withdrawing and rotating tube. Hold trap upright to prevent loss of secretions from trap.
NOTE: Catheter should remain in nasopharynx no longer than 10 seconds
8. Repeat procedure for second nostril.
9. Disconnect suction. Remove cap with tubing and place in biohazard waste.
10. Place new cap on trap. Label trap and place in biohazard bag. Tube specimen immediately to lab or send on wet ice.

