THROAT SWAB FOR CULTURE OR ANTIGEN DETECTION

MATERIALS NEEDED:
For bacteria: CultureSwab or equivalent collection system
All others: Virus/Chlamydia/Mycoplasma Collection Pack
Call Microbiology /Virology Laboratory 303-861-6703 if collection materials needed

METHOD:
1. With the patient’s head tilted back and the throat well illuminated, depress the tongue so that the back of the throat can be seen.
2. Rub the swab up and down the back of the throat and against any white patches in the tonsillar area. Avoid the tongue and the cheeks.
3. Replace the swab in the transport tube. If using the Virus/Chlamydia/Mycoplasma Collection Kit swab, break off or bend swab shaft, leaving tip in tube.
4. Seal tube tightly and label with patient name, date and initials of collector.
5. Send the specimen to the laboratory with a completed on-line test order or with a test request form that indicates patient name, account number, medical record number, source, collection date and time, tests ordered, ordering physician’s name.