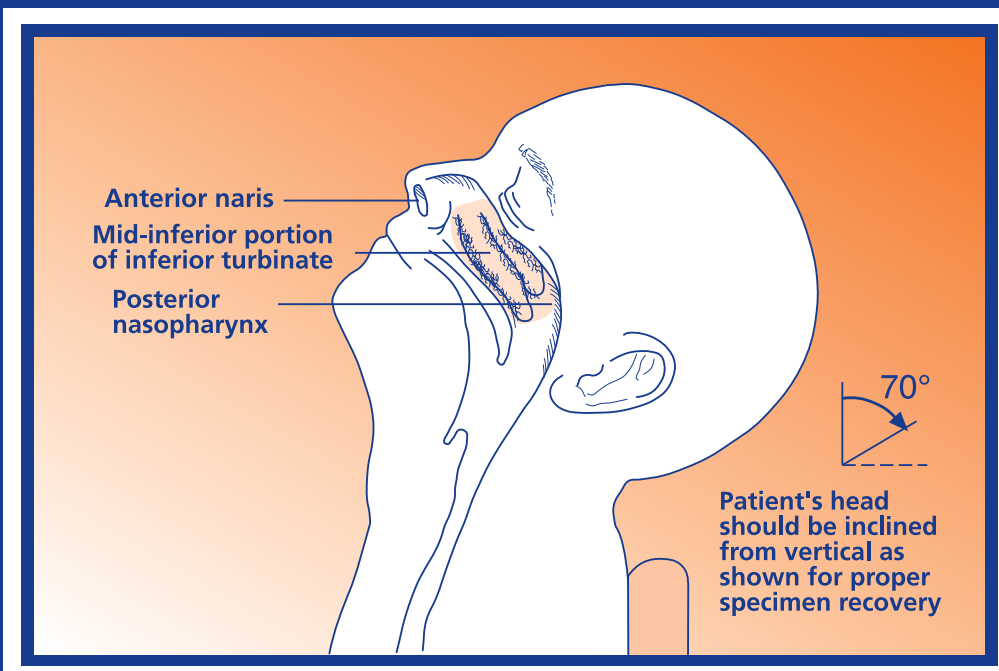


# NASOPHARYNGEAL SPECIMEN COLLECTION



Specimen collection procedures appropriate for use with the following BD EZ rapid test kits:

BD™ EZ Flu A+B  
30 Test Kit  
Cat. No.: 256050

BD™ EZ RSV  
30 Test Kit  
Cat. No.: 256030



## Vacuum-assisted Nasopharyngeal Aspirate Method



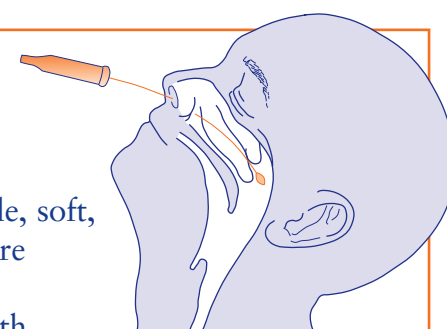
**Materials:** Suction outlet (portable/wall)  
Sterile suction catheter  
Mucus trap (i.e., Luken's tube)  
Viral Transport Medium (VTM)

1. Attach mucus trap to suction outlet and catheter, leaving wrapper on suction catheter; turn on suction and adjust to suggested pressure.
2. Without applying suction, insert catheter into the nose, directed posteriorly and toward the opening of the external ear. **NOTE:** Depth of insertion necessary to reach posterior pharynx is equivalent to distance between anterior naris and external opening of the ear.
3. Apply suction. Using a rotating movement, slowly withdraw catheter. **NOTE:** Catheter should remain in nasopharynx for a minimal period of time, not to exceed 10 sec.
4. Hold trap upright to prevent secretions from going into pump.
5. Rinse catheter (if necessary) with approximately 2.0 mL VTM; disconnect suction; connect tubing to arm of mucus trap to seal.
6. Repeating procedure for the second nostril will deliver optimal combined sample.
7. After collection, immediately transport specimen to the laboratory for viral testing and viral antigen detection. If transport to the laboratory is delayed, place specimen on ice or in refrigeration.

Patient Age	Catheter Size (French)*	Suction Pressure
Premature infant	6	80-100 mmHg
Infant	6	80-100 mmHg
Toddler / Preschooler	8	100-120 mmHg
School age	8	100-120 mmHg
Adolescent / Adult	8	120-150 mmHg

\* To determine length of catheter tubing, measure distance from tip of nose to external opening of ear.

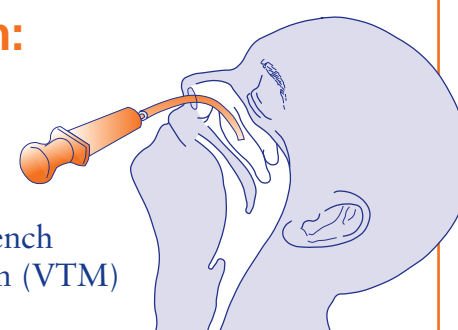
## Nasopharyngeal Swab Method



**Materials:** BD CultureSwab™ flexible, soft, or regular aluminum wire products *or* Nasopharyngeal swab with synthetic fiber tip  
1-2 mL Viral Transport Medium (VTM)  
Specimen container

1. Insert swab into one nostril.
2. Rotate swab over surface of posterior nasopharynx.
3. Withdraw swab from collection site; insert into transport tube or container with VTM.
4. Repeating procedure for the second nostril will deliver optimal combined sample.
5. After collection, immediately transport specimen to the laboratory for viral testing and viral antigen detection. If transport to the laboratory is delayed, place specimen on ice or in refrigeration.

## Nasopharyngeal Wash: Syringe Method



**Materials:** Saline  
3-5 mL syringe\*  
2" Sterile NG tube 8-french  
Viral Transport Medium (VTM)  
Specimen container

1. Fill syringe with saline; attach tubing to syringe tip.
2. Quickly instill saline into nostril.
- 3a. Aspirate the recoverable nasopharyngeal specimen. Recovery must occur immediately, as the instilled fluid will rapidly drain.
- 3b. (*Alternate*) In appropriate cases, patients may tilt head forward to allow specimen to drain into suitable sterile container.
4. (*If aspirated*) Inject aspirated specimen from syringe into sterile specimen container with suitable VTM, according to virology laboratory requirements.
5. Repeating procedure for the second nostril will deliver optimal combined sample.
6. After collection, immediately transport specimen to the laboratory for viral testing and viral antigen detection. If transport to the laboratory is delayed, place specimen on ice or in refrigeration.

\* Length and diameter of syringe and tubing as appropriate for infant, child or adult.

## Nasopharyngeal Wash: Bulb Method



**Materials:** Saline  
1-2 oz. tapered sterile rubber bulb\*  
Viral Transport Medium (VTM)  
Specimen container

1. Suction 3-5 mL saline into a new sterile bulb.
2. Insert bulb into one nostril until nostril is occluded.
3. Instill saline into nostril with one squeeze of the bulb and immediately release bulb to collect recoverable nasal specimen.
4. Empty bulb into sterile specimen container with suitable VTM, according to virology laboratory requirements.
5. Repeating procedure for the second nostril will deliver optimal combined sample.
6. After collection, immediately transport specimen to the laboratory for viral testing and viral antigen detection. If transport to the laboratory is delayed, place specimen on ice or in refrigeration.

\* Length and diameter of bulb as appropriate for infant, child or adult.



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