ASCEND INSTRUCTIONS: COVID-19 SARS-CoV-2 PCR TESTING

COLLECTION

Nasopharyngeal (NP) Swab



- Remove swab from packaging.
- Position head slightly back. Swab should reach depth



- Insert a swab into nostril parallel to the palate.
- Swab should reach depth equal to distance from nostrils to outer opening of the ear.



- Leave swab in place for several seconds to absorb secretions.
- Slowly remove swab while rotating it.



Breakpoint

- While holding swab, remove cap from transport media.
- Insert swab until the breakpoint is level with tube opening.
- Bend the swab shaft at a 180° angle to break it off at the breakpoint.
- Secure cap back onto transport media and apply patient identification label.

COLLECTION

Anterior Nares Swab* BD BBL™ CultureSwab® EZ



- Remove swab from plastic sheath.
- **DISCARD** plastic sheath.



- Position head slightly back.
- Insert swab into LEFT nostril.
- Gently push swab until slight resistance is met (less than 1" into nostril).



- Rotate swab in a circular motion for 3-5 seconds.
- Remove swab from **LEFT** nostril.
- Repeat steps on **RIGHT** nostril.
- Remove swab when finished.



- While holding swab, remove cap from transport media.
- Insert swab 3/4 into tube.
- Bend swab shaft at a 180° angle against side of tube; bend back and forth until top of swab breaks off, or cut.
- Discard top of swab.
- Secure cap back onto transport media and apply patient identification label.

SHIPPING

- Package one patient per bag only.
- Ship in a separate biohazard bag with refrigerated (2-8° C) Ascend specimens.
- For clinics who utilize a local courier, place with your refrigerated Ascend specimens for pickup.
- For clinics who utilize Ascend shipping boxes, ship with your refrigerated Ascend specimens, and place a UN3373 sticker on the Ascend specimen shipping box.

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at 800.800.5655, Option 1.

