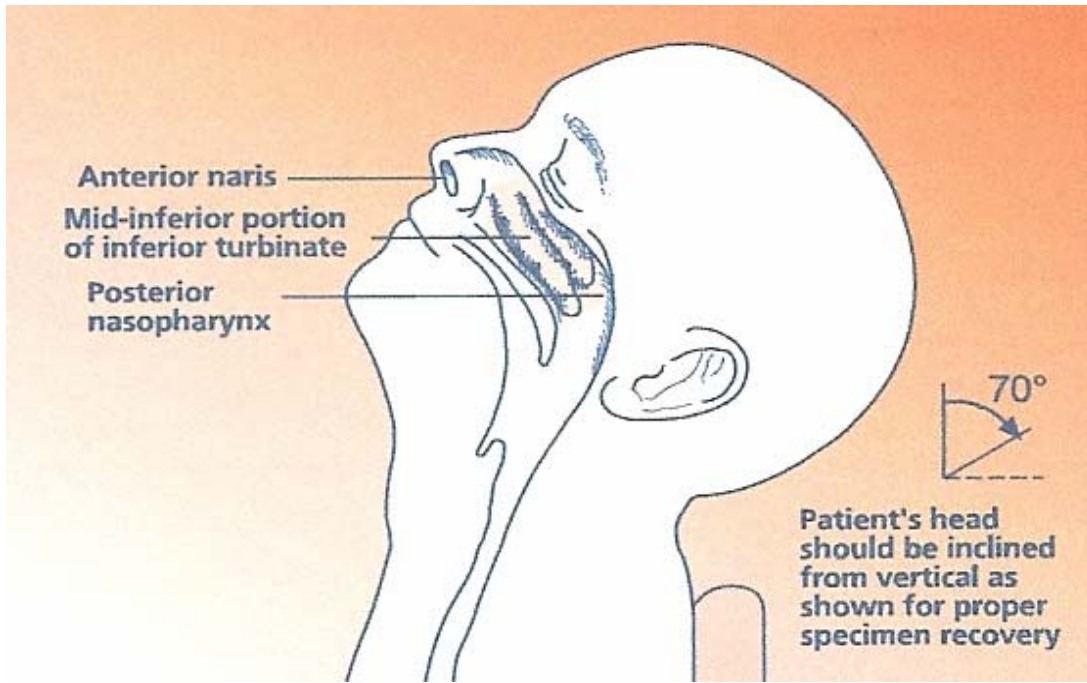


CENTRA CARE Laboratory Services

Nasopharyngeal Swab Specimen Collection

10/21/2009



Materials:

Nasopharyngeal swab with synthetic fiber tip (green mini-tip swabs)

1. Educate patient about procedure.
2. Perform hand hygiene/apply gloves.
3. Check expiration date of swab and open package.
4. Insert swab through anterior naris.
5. Rotate swab over surface of posterior nasopharynx. Repeating the procedure for the second nostril will deliver an optimal combined sample.
6. Withdraw swab from collection site; insert into transport tube.
7. Label specimen in the presence of the patient using full name, medical record number and specimen source **NP** (nasopharyngeal).
8. Complete screening form: "MDH PCR Testing for Influenza" located in laboratory or the MDH website. (For MDH RT-PCR Influenza testing including H1N1 only.)
9. Send specimen and completed form (if applicable) to the laboratory.

