

# Nasopharyngeal Swab Procedure

4/23/2020

- Obtain a viral transport kit



- Perform hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE
  - Airborne/Contact Precautions = CAPR/Gown/Gloves
  - Airborne/Contact/Eye Protection Precautions with N95
    - Goggles/Gown/Gloves [If Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP) add procedure mask]
    - Face Shield/Gown/Gloves
- Tilt the patient's head back (looking up toward the ceiling)



- Insert the flexible swab into the nare
  - **Rule of thumb is to insert the swab approximately half the distance between the tip of the nose and the earlobe**
- Gently press the tip of the swab to the mucosal surface of the mid-anterior turbinate (along the floor of the nose) and insert the swab straight back until resistance is met
- Rotate the swab several times and hold the swab in place for a few seconds
- Withdraw the swab and place in the transport tube
- Snap off the end of the swab at the indicator line
- Cap and appropriately label the specimen
- Place specimen in transport bag
- Remove PPE and perform hand hygiene