




## Instructions for Respiratory Viral Testing

Molecular Pathology Lab – Dunedin ph (03) 470 2949

Viral transport Medium (UTM) and Viral Swabs	Nasopharyngeal Swab Method	
<p><b><u>Dunedin Hospital:</u></b> Available via <b>PCR Lab</b> on <b>ext 4049</b> or <b>470 2949</b>. These will be sent by Lamson tube on request to hospital sites.</p> <p>UTM can be stored at room temperature.</p> <p><b><u>Southland Hospital:</u></b> Available via Processing Dept, Laboratory - ext 8676 or Microbiology Lab - ext 8758</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wear appropriate PPE. Then using a synthetic fibre tipped NP swab: ( Adult: orange top swab / Paediatric: white top swab)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Nasopharyngeal swab in Viral Transport Media</u></b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Insert swab into one nostril</li> <li>- Press swab tip on the mucosal surface of the mid-inferior portion of the inferior turbinate (see sketch), and rotate the swab tip several times across the mucosal surface to collect cellular material.</li> <li>- Break swab at indent (by bending) into VIRUS TRANSPORT MEDIUM and discard the top portion of the swab</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Label with patient name, date of birth, and date of collection.</li> <li>- Forward specimen and request form to SCL Lab Dunedin</li> <li>- Samples will be processed following approval by the Medical Microbiologist</li> </ul>	

Please Note:

- All samples / pathology request forms should be clearly labelled for **“Respiratory Viral Testing”**
- Do not use this swab for Bordetella culture. If Bordetella culture is required please send a Charcoal swab.