

**To obtain a Specimen  
Collection Kit contact:  
WAPHL Mailroom  
206-418-5579**

**Packaging Instructions:**

Place the viral transport tube into the plastic bag, ensuring that the tube cap is securely closed.

Place the lab form into the pocket of the plastic bag.

Place the plastic bag and absorbent material into the envelope. This can hold up to six specimens.

Place the envelope into the shipping box along with the frozen ice packs.

Contact WAPHL and ship immediately (within 24 hours) as overnight delivery.

Department of Health  
Public Health Laboratories  
1610 NE 150th Street  
Shoreline, WA 98155



**Viral  
Respiratory  
Specimen  
Collection Kit**



*Influenza*

**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND  
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON

## Viral Respiratory Collection Kit

## Shipping to the Public Health Laboratories

### Instructions:

Collect specimens within 3 days of onset. A Nasal Wash and Throat Swab is preferred. Alternatively, Nasopharyngeal and Throat swabs can be collected (Sputum specimens are not satisfactory).

**Refrigerate immediately and do not freeze.**

Please use swabs provided with this kit. All specimens can be placed into the same viral transport tube.

### Nasopharyngeal Swab:

Insert flexible wire swab into the nasopharynx. Rotate the swab and remove. Place the swab into the viral transport tube and cut off the end of the swab so the cap can be secured.

### Throat Swab:

Swab posterior pharynx and any inflamed and erythematous areas or visible lesions in the throat. Place the swab into the viral transport tube and cut off the end of the swab so the cap can be secured.



### Items provided in each Collection kit:

- 1 Shipping system (envelope/box) <sup>8,9</sup>
- 1 Viral transport tube <sup>1</sup>
- 1 Microgent/swab combo <sup>2</sup>
- 1 Ziplock bag with absorbent <sup>6</sup>
- 1 Lab form <sup>5</sup>
- 1 Ice pack <sup>10</sup>

**Transport Packages (in the same box received) to:**

Washington Public Health  
Laboratories  
Attention: Virology  
1610 NE 150th Street  
Shoreline, WA 98155



**Phone: 206-418-5400**

**Fax: 206-418-5445**