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| Pure culture/Isolated colony                      | NA              | NA                   | Place on nutrient agar plate or slant.                                                 | NA              | • **Transport device:** Nutrient agar plate or slant.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Transport:** Ship at room temperature.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Storage:** Room temperature. |
| Bronchial wash, tracheal aspirate, sputum         | At illness. For optimal isolation, collect within 72 hours of symptom onset. | NA                   | Collect expectorated specimen into a sterile container.                                | NA              | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof container.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Transport:** Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Storage:** Refrigerate at 2-8°C. |
| Tissues (spleen, liver, lymph nodes, bone marrow, lung) | NA              | NA                   | Collect 2g (or 0.5-1 cm³) of material into a sterile container, and add 1-2 drops of normal saline to keep the tissue moist. | NA              | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof container.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Transport:** Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Storage:** Refrigerate at 2-8°C. If arriving at WAPHL ≥ 72 hrs of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C. |
| Nasopharyngeal swabs                              | NA              | NA                   | • Collect only using synthetic tip swabs (ex. Dacron, Nylon, Polyester) with non-wooden shaft.  
|                                                   |                 |                      | • Keep 1 Dacron swab dry (do not add transport medium).  
|                                                   |                 |                      | • Keep 1 Dacron swab in transport medium.                                                | Keep dry or in transport medium | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof container.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Transport:** Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. Shipping at room temperature is acceptable. If previously refrigerated, ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Storage:** Refrigerate at 2-8 °C. |
| Postmortem Tissue                                 |                 |                      | Collect tissue into a sterile container, and add 1-2 drops of normal saline to keep the tissue moist. |                 | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof container.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Transport:** Ship cold (2-8°C) on ice packs. If previously frozen, ship on dry ice.  
|                                                   |                 |                      |                                                                                       |                 | • **Storage:** Refrigerate at 2-8°C. If arriving at WAPHL ≥ 72 hrs of collection, freeze at ≤ -70°C. |

*Preferred specimen type, if applicable  **All specimens must be shipped meeting IATA, OSHA, and USPS requirements.  NA: Not Applicable  Last Revised: March 2015
General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not refrigerated or frozen properly.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Did not obtain LHJ or DOH CDE approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

NOTE:
Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient’s county of residence, and second identifier.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.

Collection kit availability

Not available.

Comments