

# Specimen Collection & Transport Instructions

## Saliva or Swab - Qualitative SARS-CoV-2, RT-PCR Testing

Specimen(s) required **Saliva Specimen**

**Important for Saliva Specimens: do not eat, drink, smoke, vape, or chew gum for 30 minutes before saliva specimen collection**

Volume for Saliva - Fill with saliva as indicated on package

OR

**Swab Specimen** - nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal specimen, in transport vial containing viral transport media (such as UTM® or UVT®) or sterile saline

Volume for Swab - 1 mL

Shipping requirements

Store at 2–8° C and ship overnight on ice pack, or store frozen at -70° C and ship overnight on dry ice

Special Notes

- Multiple Swabs or Saliva Specimens from the same patient can be combined in a single vial for testing
- Each specimen vial should be enclosed in a biohazard bag, then placed in the 95kPa Transport Bag (if using our provided kit) to avoid leakage during transportation, then **securely seal the front pocket of the bag by peeling away the white tape and folding the adhesive down to cover the opening**
- Each specimen requires a separate requisition; **for safety, place the requisition OUTSIDE of the specimen bag(s)**

Criteria for rejection

- X Specimen container is unlabeled/mislabeled
- X Specimen collected using calcium alginate tips, swabs with preservatives, or cotton swabs with wooden shafts
- X Specimen stored at 4° C received more than 72 hours after collection
- X Broken or leaking containers
- X Improper transportation conditions, per instructions above

Turnaround time

24–72 hours from the date of receiving specimen for Saliva & Swab

### Questions?

Please contact **Client Services** or your Account Manager or Sales Director.

Client Services  
**866.588.3280**