Collection for throat swab specimens

Partially open the swab package and remove the swab. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. **If the soft tip is touched, laid down, or dropped, discard and get a new Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit.** Hold the swab, placing thumb and forefinger in the middle of the shaft covering the black score line. Do not hold the shaft below the score line.

Carefully insert the swab into the throat ensuring contact with bilateral tonsils (if present) and the posterior pharyngeal wall, then withdraw the swab without touching the inside of the cheeks or tongue.

While holding the swab in hand, unscrew the tube cap. Do not spill the tube contents. **If the tube contents are spilled, discard and replace with a new Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit.** Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so the black score line is at the top of the tube. Align the score line with the top edge of the tube and carefully break the shaft. The swab will drop to the bottom of the tube. Discard the top portion of the swab shaft.

Tightly screw the cap onto the tube. When collecting multiple specimens from the same patient, the tube label provides a specimen source field for unique identification for the specimen location.