

## Collection of axilla/groin and tracheostomy swabs for the detection of Multidrug-resistant Organisms (MDRO's)

Prior to sampling, perform hand hygiene and don appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as indicated by the patient's clinical care team (e.g. gloves, gown).



### Collection of axilla/groin swabs

1. Open ESwab swab package, remove tube.
2. Grasp the plastic shaft of the swab and rub the soft end of the swab across each site 3-5 times (4 sites total):
  - a. Swab the left and right axilla (crease of skin where the arm meets the body)
  - b. Swab the left and right groin (inguinal crease where the leg meets the pelvic region)
3. Open tube and put soft end of swab in tube, ensuring that soft end of swab only touches the inside of the tube in the process.
4. Break off swab at red score mark and screw on the cap.
5. Ensure each tube is labeled with at least two patient identifiers (full name, date of birth, patient ID or room number), specimen source (axilla/groin), and date/time of collection.

### Collection of tracheostomy swabs

1. Using aseptic technique, collect tracheostomy sample per facility policy. Break off swab at red score mark and screw on the cap.
2. Ensure each tube is labeled with at least two patient identifiers (full name, date of birth, patient ID or room number), specimen source (trach), and date/time of collection.

### Label, Package and Ship Axilla/Groin and Tracheostomy Swabs

1. Ensure each tube is **LABELED** with at least two patient identifiers (full name, date of birth, patient ID or room number), specimen source (trach), and date/time of collection.
2. Place closed swab in the provided plastic pressure bag with absorbent material. Multiple swabs may be placed in a single bag.
3. **CREATE** shipping label (instructions for using WSLH's FedEx account are included in this packet)
4. In insulated shipping container, include **completed** requisition form. Each specimen must be listed on the form with patient full name, date of birth, patient/specimen ID, date/time of collection, and specimen type. Forms should be separated from the specimens to avoid contamination of the paperwork.
5. Add a frozen icepack to the shipping container.
6. Swabs should be shipped as Category B specimens by properly trained and certified individuals.
7. **PACKAGE** swabs
  - a. **For large shipper:** Place bag(s) with swabs in a cardboard box with a Styrofoam box insert. Seal box with packing tape and attach FedEx shipment label. Attach UN 3373 label (copy is included in instructions).
  - b. **For small shipper:** Place bag with swabs in small Styrofoam box. Place Styrofoam box inside provided FedEx UN3373 Overpack envelope and seal envelope.
8. **SHIP** to the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene (See Instructions for shipping to WSLH)
  - a. If a delay in shipment cannot be prevented, store the swabs on ice or in a refrigerator until shipment
  - b. **Swabs must be received within 4 days of collection**

## Collection of Rectal Swabs for the Detection of Carbapenemases

One method to screen for enteric multidrug resistant organisms (MDRO's) is to collect a rectal swab. This method can be used to screen for carbapenem resistant, carbapenemase-producing organisms.

**Prior to sampling, perform hand hygiene and don appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as indicated by the patient's clinical care team (e.g. gloves, gown).**



**Rectal Sample Collection Kit**

### Collection of Rectal Swabs



6. Open Sample Collection Kit (Cepheid #900-0370) provided by the AR Lab Network.
7. Gently insert the tip of the sterile swabs in the patient's rectum approximately one inch (see diagram above).
8. Rotate swab and then remove it.
9. The swabs should be lightly, but visibly contaminated to ensure adequate sample. See diagram above for appropriate collection. Do not send heavily soiled swabs as they may result in an invalid test.
10. Place swab in collection kit and secure cap. Reinforce the screw top with tape or parafilm.
11. Swabs need to be tested within **5 days** of collection and it is if best shipped within one day of collection.

### Label, Package and Ship Rectal Swabs

9. Ensure each tube is **LABELED** with at least two patient identifiers (full name, date of birth, patient ID or room number), specimen source (trach), and date/time of collection.
10. Place closed swab in the provided plastic pressure bag with absorbent material. Multiple swabs may be placed in a single bag.
11. **CREATE** shipping label (instructions for using WSLH's FedEx account are included in this packet)
12. In shipping container, include **completed** requisition form. Each specimen must be listed on the form with patient full name, date of birth, patient/specimen ID, date/time of collection, and specimen type. Forms should be separated from the specimens to avoid contamination of the paperwork.
13. Swabs should be shipped as Category B specimens by properly trained and certified individuals.
14. **PACKAGE** swabs
  - a. **For large shipper:** Place bag(s) with swabs in a cardboard box. Seal box with packing tape and attach FedEx shipment label. Attach UN 3373 label (copy is included in instructions).
  - b. **For small shipper:** Place bag with swabs in small Styrofoam box. Place Styrofoam box inside provided FedEx UN3373 Overpack envelope and seal envelope.
15. **SHIP** to the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene (See Instructions for shipping to WSLH)
  - a. If a delay in shipment cannot be prevented, store the swabs on ice or in a refrigerator until shipment
  - b. **Swabs must be received within 5 days of collection**