COVID-19

![RUSH logo]

Swab Differences for POC and Standard COVID Testing

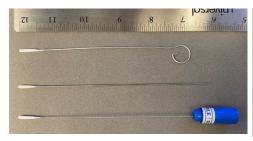| Test	Swab	Procedure
COVID-19 standard test	**1** Nasopharyngeal swabs (preferred)	Gently advance swab straight back and down along nasal floor into nasopharynx until resistance met (see video for technique). • Spin swab several times for 10−15 seconds. Withdraw and place into viral transport medium (VTM) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS).
	2 Mid-turbinate swab (if NPS not available)	Direct mid-turbinate swab straight back along the nasal floor until the stopper hits the nostril. • Spin swab several times for 10−15 seconds • Repeat with the same swab on the other side. Place MTS swab into viral transport medium (VTM) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS).
ID NOW COVID-19 (POC test)	**3** Foam-tipped nasal swab (comes with the POC test)	Direct nasal swab. Insert nasal swab into the nostril with the most drainage or congestion. • Gently insert swab, until resistance is met (near the level of the nasal turbinates, less than one inch into nostril). • Rotate the swab against the nasal wall several times and gently remove the swab. • Using the same swab, repeat sample collection in the other nostril. • Perform POCT immediately if on a unit with an ID NOW test device. If no test device on unit, place swab back into plain sterile tube and tighten cap, label tube with patient label, date/time/initials of collector and place specimen biohazard bag. Sample must arrive in micro within 1 hour of collection for test to be performed.

1 Nasopharyngeal swab (NPS)

2 Mid-turbinate swab (MTS)

3 Foam tipped nasal swab