

## Coronavirus and influenza

# SmartNotes

## Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Respiratory Specimens

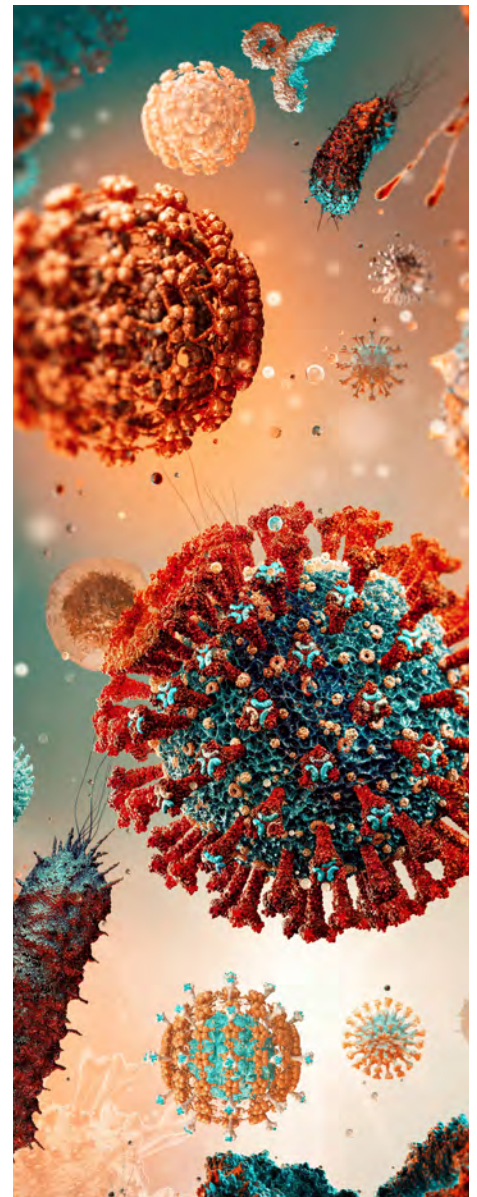
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all testing for coronavirus and influenza virus should be conducted in consultation with a healthcare provider. Specimens should be collected as soon as possible once a decision has been made to pursue testing, regardless of the time of symptom onset. The guidance below addresses options for collection of specimens.

For initial diagnostic testing for coronavirus and influenza, CDC recommends<sup>1</sup> collecting and testing an upper respiratory specimen. The following are acceptable specimens:











- A nasopharyngeal (NP) specimen collected by a healthcare provider. 🦠🦠
- An oropharyngeal (OP) specimen collected by a healthcare provider. 🦠
- A nasal mid-turbinate swab collected by a healthcare provider or by a supervised onsite self-collection (using a flocked tapered swab). 🦠
- An anterior nares (nasal swab) specimen collected by a healthcare provider or by onsite or home self-collection (using a flocked or spun polyester swab). 🦠🦠
- Nasopharyngeal wash/aspirate or nasal wash/aspirate (NW) specimen collected by a healthcare provider. 🦠🦠









🦠 Coronavirus 🦠 Influenza

Swabs should be placed immediately into a sterile transport tube containing 2-3 mL of either viral transport medium (VTM), saline or liquid amies.<sup>1</sup>



Thermo Fisher Scientific offer a portfolio of products which includes swabs, transport tubes and media, the following products are applicable to coronavirus sample collection.

Product code	Product	Pack size	
<b>Bulk Swabs</b>			
R12548	Polyester Tipped Oropharyngeal Swab, no breakpoint	1000/pk	
R12544	Disposable Sampling Swab, 100 mm breakpoint	100/pk	
R12680	Disposable Sampling Swab, 80 mm breakpoint	100/pk	
R12681	Disposable Sampling Swab, no breakpoint	96/pk	
<b>M4RT™ Viral Transport Media</b>			
R12587	M4RT (3 mL) Tube	72 tubes/pk	
R12505	M4RT (3 mL) Tube	72 tubes/pk	
R12566	M4RT (3mL) MicroTip Flock Swab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12588	M4RT (3mL) Flock Swab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12700	M4RT (3 mL) without Beads Tube	72 tubes/pk	
R12705	M4RT (3 mL) without Beads NP Swab Kit	100 kits/pk	

Product code	Product	Pack size	
<b>M6™ Viral Transport Media</b>			
R12562	M6 (1.5 mL) Universal FlockSwab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12563	M6 (3 mL) Universal FlockSwab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12560	M6 (1.5 mL) Traditional FlockSwab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12568	M6 (3 mL) Traditional FlockSwab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12561	M6 (1.5 mL) MicroTip Flocked Swab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12569	M6 (3 mL) MicroTip Flocked Swab Kit	100 kits/pk	
R12533	M6 (3.0 mL)	72 tubes/pk	
R12530	M6 (1.5 mL)	72 tubes/pk	

#### References

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>

Availability of product in each country depends on local regulatory marketing authorization status.

 To discuss products further, please contact your local Microbiology sales representative or email [microbiology@thermofisher.com](mailto:microbiology@thermofisher.com) for support

For more information on guidelines, refer to **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** or local authorities.