

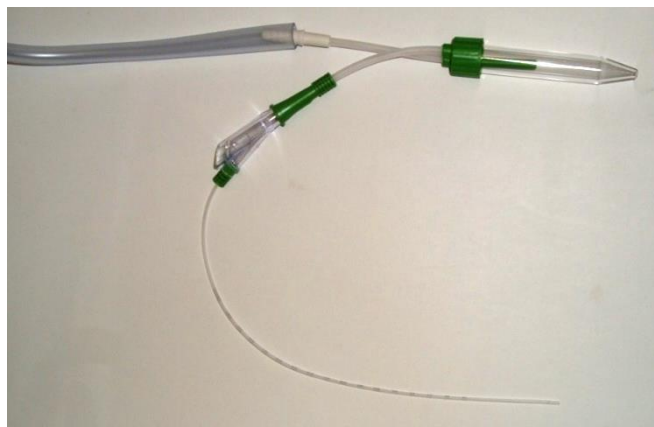
Guidance Sheet 13a: Sampling procedures

A. Procedure for endotracheal samples

- Materials required:
 - One sterile suction catheter
 - One ampule of sterile IV grade 0.9% sodium chloride
 - One sterile suction specimen collector set (provided)
 - Sample labels (provided, in document box)



- Remove the suction set from the packaging and attach the adaptor to the suction tubing (hospital suction source).
- Open the suction catheter packaging and attach the tip to the green adaptor (leave the thin tubing in the packaging until ready to use to maintain sterility- figure shows packaging removed from catheter just for illustration purposes)
 - If using an in-line suction system, it is preferable to collect the sample immediately after the device has been changed to avoid contamination of samples from previous aspirations



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- Now you are ready to remove the endotracheal secretions from the endotracheal tube



- When ready with suction trap apparatus, disconnect the ventilator and insert the catheter to a depth of approximately 0.5cm. If using an in-line suction device, disconnection from the ventilator is not required.



- Place thumb over the suction catheter control to apply suction (5-7kPA/37-52mmHg) and move catheter in the endotracheal tube to extract the accumulated secretions- gradually withdraw the catheter

****If no secretions are present, consider instilling up to 0.5ml/kg of normal saline down the endotracheal tube, and re-suction after a brief pause****

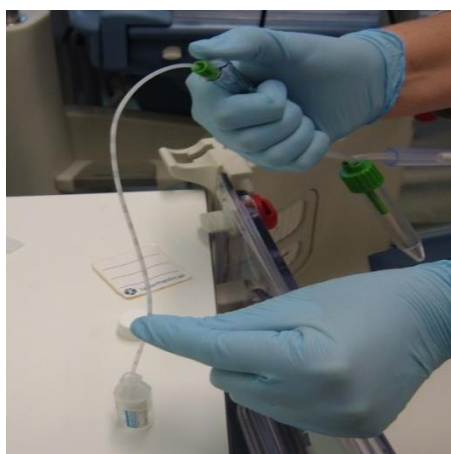
Guidance Sheet 13a: Sampling procedures



- When finished extracting the endotracheal secretions, reconnect the ventilator (if applicable)



- Rinse the secretions from the catheter into the trap by sucking up approximately **2ml** of sterile saline by inserting the tip and closing the suction circuit with your thumb



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- Unscrew the capture tube from the suction apparatus, seal with the sterile cap and apply the appropriate label to identify the baby and the sample. Labels are provided, corresponding to the sample type and the sampling timepoint



- Place the sample in the specimen fridge until the appropriate time to package before shipping. Take care to store in a clearly marked space, away from general clinical samples. Shipping guidelines are in **Guidance sheet 13b: Sample shipment**

B. [Procedure for nasopharyngeal samples](#)

- Materials required:
 - One sterile suction catheter
 - One ampule of sterile IV grade 0.9% sodium chloride
 - One sterile trachea suction specimen collector set (provided)
 - Sample labels (provided, in document box)
- Follow steps as in part A) to prepare the catheter for use
- Insert the catheter gently via the nostril to the nasopharynx. Place thumb over the suction catheter control to apply suction (5-7kPA/37-52mmHg) and gradually withdraw the catheter
 - **If no secretions are present, consider instilling up to 0.5ml/kg of normal saline in to the nostrils and re-suction after a brief pause**
- Rinse the secretions from the catheter into the trap by sucking up approximately **2ml** of sterile saline by inserting the tip and closing the suction circuit with your thumb

Guidance Sheet 13a: Sampling procedures

- Unscrew the capture tube from the suction apparatus, seal with the sterile cap and apply the appropriate label to identify the baby and the sample.
- Place the sample in the specimen fridge until the appropriate time to package before shipping. Take care to store in a clearly marked space, away from general clinical samples. Shipping guidelines are in **Guidance sheet 13b: Sample shipment**

C. Procedure for stool samples

- Materials required:
 - One sterile universal container with spatula (provided)
 - Sample labels (provided)
- Use the spatula to obtain stool sample from the baby's nappy (meconium is acceptable as a sample)
- Seal the container securely and apply the appropriate label to identify the baby and the sample



COVID 19- amended storage procedure

- Place the sample directly in to a -20 freezer, immediately if possible. If -80 storage is available, please transfer samples weekly. CTR will arrange for batch shipment of samples periodically.
 - Once informed that the DX courier service has resumed, please revert to the standard process in the next step, below.
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- Place the sample in the specimen fridge until the appropriate time to package before shipping. Take care to store in a clearly marked space, away from general clinical samples. Shipping guidelines are in **Guidance sheet 13b: Sample shipment**