



PGx Specimen Collection Guidelines

Buccal Swab

Specimen Collection:

1. Complete the PGx test requisition form with the patient information and an authorized health care provider signature. Include front/back copy of the patient's insurance card.
2. Label the primary specimen envelope with the patient's name, date of birth, and specimen collection date.
3. Instruct the patient to cleanse the mouth by rinsing with water.
4. With gloved hands, peel open the swab wrapper halfway and remove the swab by the handle without touching the sterile tip.
5. Insert the swab tip into the patient's mouth. Brush and rotate the swab firmly against the patient's cheek for at least 10 seconds.
6. Allow the swab to dry for 5 minutes and return the swab tip first into its original wrapper.
7. Repeat steps 3-5 for the remaining swab(s).
8. Insert the rewrapped swabs into the labeled primary specimen envelope and seal the envelope.
9. Place the sealed primary specimen envelope, completed test requisition form, and any accompanying paperwork into the outer NRLBH envelope.
10. Place the outer NRLBH envelope into the provided FedEx shipping envelope and arrange for FedEx pickup (multiple specimens may be placed in the same FedEx shipping envelope).

Specimen Handling:

- DO NOT touch the tip of the swab to any other object other than the patient's cheek.
- Store and transport specimen at room temperature.
- Transport specimen and test requisition to the lab as soon as possible.

Specimen Requirements:

- Primary specimen enveloped labeled with a minimum of two (2) patient identifiers and specimen collection date
- Completed test requisition form
- Minimum of 2 specimen collection swabs

Rejection Criteria:

- Inadequate information / Missing Requisition
- Unlabeled / Mislabeled Specimen
- Specimen damaged during transport
- Specimens arriving in unsealed envelopes
- Buccal swabs received 30 days past collection date
- Specimens appearing to not have been collected according to the NRLBH collection instructions provided. This includes, but is not limited to: discolored swabs or collection envelopes contain debris or foreign objects