

Dry Swab Sampling and Transportation

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Abstract

Protocols for sampling and shipping human skin swabs from clinics to lab.

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Protocol

Wear gloves

Step 1.

Break the seal round the tube containing the swab

Step 2.

Swabbing

Step 3.

Designate a location to be swabbed, taking care to note the size of the area.

Remove the swab from the tube, swab the entire area in a zigzag pattern, rolling the swab over to ensure the entire swab is used.

Return the swab into the tube and label the sample

Step 4.

Carefully insert the swab into the tube, making sure to seat the cap firmly on the tube.

Label the sample with a unique identifier, such as the patient_ID, location the sample was taken, the date.

Place the tube into the biohazard bag and seal the bag, store at room temp (or 4°C, if available)

Step 5.

Shipping instructions

Step 6.

Place samples and all paperwork in Styrofoam container and arrange shipment for next day delivery.

Do not ship over the weekend.