

## Laboratory Medicine - Test Information Guide

### Nasopharyngeal swab for *Bordetella pertussis*

Alternate Name: Whooping Cough

Department: Microbiology

STAT Test Available: N

TAT (Days):

Specimen Type: Nasopharyngeal swab

#### Collection Information & Patient Prep:

- Obtain *Bordetella pertussis* kit from Specimen Management Centre.
- It is not necessary to swab both nostrils. A properly taken nasopharyngeal swab will yield high levels of organism.
- Please provide relevant clinical diagnosis. i.e. cough, congestion, fever.
- Only one specimen per patient per seven day period will be processed. The laboratory needs high levels of organism for detection of *Bordetella pertussis*.
- Insert flexible wire nasopharyngeal swab into one nostril. Do not use a rigid shaft swab. Press the swab tip on the mucosal surface of the mid-inferior turbinate. Rub swab back and forth about 5 times. Leave swab in place for a few seconds to absorb material. Withdraw swab and insert into NP Transport Media. Cut excess wire with scissors.
- Store in 4oC refrigerator

#### Methodology:

Requisition: PHL

Critical Result Ranges:

Testing Referred To: PHL

Sample Volume:

Unit of Measure:

Image:

Reference Ranges: