

## Bordetella Culture/Smear/PCR/ Instructions Mailer

Materials Provided:

### **Kit Contents:**

**1 insulated mailing container with cold packs.** Refreeze cold packs.  
**1 large plastic conical tube containing: 1 vial Regan-Lowe Transport Medium (RLTM), 1 (2ml) microcentrifuge tube**

**Warning!!! (Please Keep COLD) Refrigerate Immediately upon Receiving DO NOT FREEZE!!**  
**Reagents are stable for 2 months refrigerated, all vials are labeled with an expiration date.**

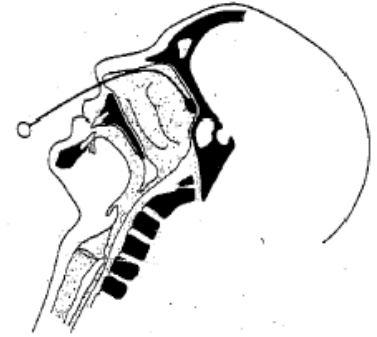
**1 ziplock bag containing: 2 nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs [Dacron tip], 2 DHHS forms T806 (Special Bacteriology), and 1 return mailing label.**

**\*\*Do NOT substitute swabs from other kits since they may contain Calcium Alginate swabs that may inhibit PCR.**  
**\*\*\*This Kit contains Dacron tipped swabs for culture and PCR testing.\*\*\***

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Label all materials.** Label RLTM vial and 2 ml microcentrifuge tube with patient name using a pencil or waterproof marker. Complete **BOTH** DHHS forms **T806** (one for PCR, one for culture) with all requested information, including Medicaid number if applicable. On the reverse side of the form **list any symptoms, date of onset, contact with other pertussis cases, immunization history, and antimicrobial therapy prior to specimen collection.**

2. **Collect 2 NP swabs** (See 2a, 2b). Immobilize patient's head and gently pass one swab into the nostril and up into the nasopharynx. Do not force swab into passageway, because patient may have a deviated septum or a large turbinate; if necessary try the other nostril. Swab may remain in the nasopharynx up to 30 seconds or until a coughing paroxysm is induced. Repeat the process using a fresh swab.



2a. **Swab for Culture:** Inoculate transport medium by immersing one swab into cold **RLTM**. Cut off swab wire, tighten the vial lid, and secure with tape. Place RLTM back into large conical tube. **Refrigerate immediately after inoculation.** Inoculated RLTM may be held refrigerated up to 48 hours before shipment.

**\* Inoculation of RLTM immediately following specimen collection is recommended, but for unavoidable delays, be sure to hold swabs refrigerated for up to 2 hours.\***

2b. **Swab for PCR:** Insert inoculated swab into empty 2 ml microcentrifuge tube, cut off swab wire, snap cap on, and place microcentrifuge tube into large centrifuge tube with RLTM. **Refrigerate.**

3. **Return specimen to State Laboratory:** Seal identification forms in ziplock bag. Place large conical tube containing **cold** inoculated vial of RLTM and the 2 ml microcentrifuge tube along with the identification forms into the mailing container with frozen cold packs. Write **BORDETELLA CULTURE** on the return label and affix it to the outside of the mailing container. **PLEASE indicate your return address.**  
Ship container as quickly as possible.

Positive PCR and culture reports are telephoned upon confirmation and are followed by a printed report. Cultures are held up to 7 days.

For further information, please contact the Special Bacteriology Laboratory, Microbiology Branch, at (919) 733-7367

North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health  
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