



Suspected COVID-19 cases

Sampling and Packaging

Diagnostic samples for suspected cases



1. Upper respiratory tract sample options:

- individual nose and throat swabs in separate collection tubes OR
- combined nose and throat swab in one collection tube containing universal transport medium OR
- single swab used for throat then nose OR
- nasopharyngeal aspirate.



2. Lower respiratory tract sample in universal container (sputum) if obtainable.

If the patient is admitted, take a sample for acute serology: 5mL in either serum tube or plain (no additive) tube. For children <12 years, 1mL is acceptable.

Packaging



Ensure lids are tight and decontaminate outside



Wrap sample with absorbent material



Individually place into zip-lock bag



Seal zip-lock bag & change gloves



Add all wrapped samples into second bag



Wrap bagged samples in ample packaging & place into bio-bottle



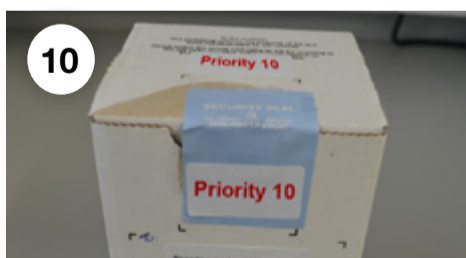
Firmly attach lid



Ensure E28 request forms for each individual sample are **OUTSIDE** the bio-bottle



Place E28 request forms & bio-bottle into transport box & add security seal



Label box with 'Priority 10', you can download the labelling template at bit.ly/2vrRNxT



Courier all samples to PHE via Category B UN3373. PHE is open to receive samples 24/7

Download the request form for COVID-19 (formerly novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV)

www.gov.uk/government/publications/testing-for-wuhan-novel-cov-2019-ncov

E28
Public Health England
COVID-19 Screening Request Form

For samples for screening - please send to nearest designated testing laboratory see Guidance Note: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/testing-for-wuhan-novel-cov-2019-ncov> or bit.ly/25af1XA

IMPORTANT: please complete all fields before to avoid delays to processing.

Report to be sent FAO

SENDER'S INFORMATION

Postcode

PATIENT/SOURCE INFORMATION

NHS number

Surname

Forename

Hospital number

Hospital name (if different from sender's signed)

Sex male female

Date of birth

Patient's postcode

Patient's HPT

Community patient: Yes No Admitted to HDU/ICU: Yes No

Hospitalised patient: Yes No Mechanical Ventilation: Yes No

ECMO: Yes No

SAMPLE INFORMATION

Your reference

Sample type

IS NS NS/TS BA Other

All samples submitted should be clearly labelled