

COVID-19 specimen collection guidelines

Quest specimen requirements and acceptable supplies for Quest's LDT (test code 39433)

Nasopharyngeal (NP) and/or oropharyngeal (OP) swabs

General comments:


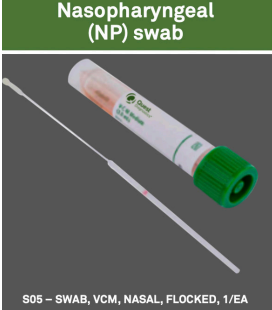


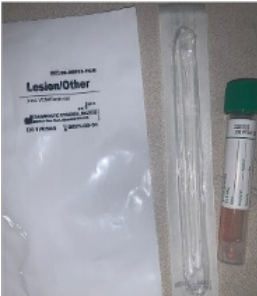
- Use only sterile Dacron® or rayon swabs with plastic shafts.
- Flocked swabs are preferred.
- Note the stem/shaft must be flexible and long enough to collect the NP sample.
- Do not use calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden shaft or swabs in Amies liquid or gel transport, as they may contain substances that inhibit PCR testing.

Viral transport media: M4, VCM and UTM or equivalent.

Bronchial lavage/wash, tracheal aspirate, sputum: Submit in a sterile leak-proof container.

Preferred COVID-19 specimen transport media and swabs for Quest test code 39433

Listed in Quest Test Directory and Quantum™ eLabs/Lab Services Manager

<p>VCM (Diagnostic Hybrids)¹</p>	 <p>Lesion (skin surface) kit SUPPLY # 142058</p>  <p>Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab</p> <p>S05 – SWAB, VCM, NASAL, FLOCKED, 1/EA</p> <p>Ordering information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PeopleSoft item #: 142059 • PeopleSoft product ID: S05 • Quantum™ product ID: S05 • Ordered by the EA (each) 	  <p>Oropharyngeal (OP) swab</p> <p>S03 – SWAB, VCM, LESION FLOQSWAB, 1/EA</p> <p>Ordering information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PeopleSoft item #: 142060 • PeopleSoft product ID: S03 • Quantum product ID: S03 • Ordered by the EA (each) 	 <p>Lesion swabs (Quest supply # S03) are preferred for oropharyngeal samples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both swabs in supply kit S03 are the same; only one is necessary for specimen collection • Cervical swabs (Quest supply # S06) is also acceptable but only the smaller swab should be used for specimen collection
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Other acceptable COVID-19 specimen transport media and swabs for Quest test code 39433

VCM (Diagnostic Hybrids)¹



Acceptable but no longer able to be ordered

UTM (Copan)²



UVT (BD)³

Flexible minitip flocced swab and regular flocced swab that come with the UVT are acceptable



Cepheid[®] Xpert[®] Sample Collection Kit for Viruses⁴



B-100 for NP



F-100 for OP

Hardy Diagnostics Healthlink UTM⁵

Hardy: 3C036NHL: NP Swab
Hardy: 3C038NHL: OP

Hardy: 3C039NHL (combo 1 minitip flocced swab, 1 regular flocced swab and 3 mL UTM medium)



Hardy: 3C036NHL: NP



Hardy: 3C038NHL: OP

Other acceptable COVID-19 specimen transport media and swabs for Quest test code 39433, continued

M4 (Fisher/Remel)⁶
 (Contains vancomycin, amphotericin B, and colistin and is suitable for transport of viruses, Chlamydiae, Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma)



M4RT (Fisher/Remel)⁶
 Contains gentamicin and amphotericin B and is only suitable for transport of viruses and Chlamydiae.



M5 (Fisher/Remel)⁶
 Similar to the M4, but it does not contain gelatin.



M6 (Fisher/Remel)⁶
 Contains gelatin, vancomycin, amphotericin B, and colistin for the transport of viruses, Chlamydiae, Ureaplasmas, and Mycoplasmas.



Puritan[®] UniTranz-RT[®] 1 mL filled vial and 6” sterile minitip flock swab
 UT-116 (NP swab)



Puritan UniTranz-RT 1 mL filled vial and 6” sterile ultrafine flock swab
 UT-117 (NP swab)



Puritan UniTranz-RT 1 mL filled vial and 6” sterile large flock swab
 UT-106 (OP swab)



Other acceptable COVID-19 specimen transport media and swabs for Quest test code 39433, continued

Starplex™ Scientific Multitrans™
with flocked swabs from
Fisher Scientific

Nasopharyngeal flocked:
23-038-096

Regular flocked swabs OP swab:
22-046-450



E-swabs/Amies medium

routine swab-OP

minitip swab-NP swab



OP swab



Minitip-NP swab

Unacceptable specimens

Calcium alginate swabs, wooden shafted swabs, charcoal medium, anaerobic swab/transport medium

**Swab in Amies liquid transport
medium (red cap)**

**Swab in Amies gel transport
medium (blue cap)**



Ref: Equivalency—Copan Universal Transport Medium (UTM)

The products described in the accompanying table are *equivalent* products. They are manufactured in identical fashion with all raw materials being utilized in all products being equivalent and at the same ratios.

Specifically, Copan Universal Transport Medium (UTM), BD UVT, Cepheid XPert Sample Collection Kit for Viruses, Hardy–HealthLink UTM and Quest VCM transports are equivalent products.

Copan	Type	Description	Quest	Cepheid	Hardy/Healthlink	BD	DHI/Quidel	Fisher Healthcare
305C	Sample collection kit (nasopharyngeal)	Nasopharyngeal collection kit: flexible minitip flocked swab + 3 mL UTM® tube	S05	SWAB/B-100	3C036NHL	220531	403C	230001720
306C	Sample collection kit (oropharyngeal)	Oropharyngeal collection kit: regular flocked swab + 3 mL UTM® tube	S03	SWAB/F-100	3C038NHL	220528	402C	23001722
330C	Collection kit component	3 mL UTM® medium in 16x100 mm tube	NA	NA	330CHL	UVT 220220	330C.DHI	23001718
503CS01	Collection kit component	Flexible minitip (nasopharyngeal) flocked swab	NA	NA	NA	220252	503CS01.DHI	23600952
519CS01	Collection kit component	Regular (oropharyngeal) flocked swab	NA	NA	NA	220250	NA	23600957
321C	Combo collection kit nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal	Flexible minitip flocked swab + regular flocked swab + 3 mL UTM® tube	NA	NA	3C039NHL	220527	99-08021	NA

References

1. Simplify lab-related tasks for better practice workflow. Quest Diagnostics website. Published December 2018. Accessed March 12, 2020. <https://hpcenroll.questdiagnostics.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/NEW-Quantum-for-HCP-Website-Brochure.pdf>
2. Copan increases production of UTM COVID-19 sample collection kits. Medical Supply Company Ltd website. Published March 5, 2020. Accessed March 12, 2020. <https://www.medical-supply.ie/2020/03/05/copan-increases-production-of-utm/>
3. Beckton Dickinson website. Accessed March 12, 2020. <https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&id=27BCDE77797251CA0BFBA2B329E00DDA754FDA75&thid=OIP.4gENK8zrMNV1ViLpdJC6gWHaF-&exph=900&expw=1116&q=BD+viral+transport+media&selectedindex=5&ajaxhist=0&vt=0&sim=11>
4. Cepheid product website. Accessed March 12, 2020. https://www.cepheid.com/?msclkid=e78ea74e94ed19d1538ef924e1b802e7&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=USA%7CCepheid%7CBM&utm_term=%2BCepheid&utm_content=Cepheid
5. Universal transport medium. Hardy Diagnostics/Healthlink website. Accessed March 12, 2020. https://hardydiagnostics.com/industry_content/universal-transport-medium-2/
6. Thermo Scientific Specimen Collection and Transport Solutions—US. Thermofisher catalog website. Published March 2017. Accessed March 12, 2020. [https://assets.thermofisher.com/TFS-Assets/MBD/brochures/Collection-and-Transport-Solutions-Booklet\(US\).pdf](https://assets.thermofisher.com/TFS-Assets/MBD/brochures/Collection-and-Transport-Solutions-Booklet(US).pdf)

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