

# Collecting respiratory specimens for measles testing:

NP swab is preferred. Throat swab is acceptable. Swabs can be synthetic tip such as nylon, polyester, or dacron with plastic shafts to collect NP swab. *Do not use cotton swabs or wooden handles.*



Place swab in 3 ml **liquid viral transport media** (VTM). Collection kits used for influenza or respiratory biofire panel testing are appropriate. Refrigerate specimens and ship cold with cold packs. **Label specimen with name, DOB, and collection date/time.** SPHL must receive specimen within 72 hours of collection date/time.

Ship specimens to SPHL as Category B  
Include the completed HL-06 form.  
**Name and DOB on HL-06 form must match specimen label.**  
Notify ORS of specimen by emailing:  
[ADH.ORSNURSES@arkansas.gov](mailto:ADH.ORSNURSES@arkansas.gov)