



**SPECIMEN COLLECTION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
Operational Policy**

## POLICY

Specimen collection (nasopharyngeal and/or oropharyngeal sampling) may be performed by EMS personnel when requested by national, state, or local public health officials in special circumstances.

## OPERATION

When performing the specimen collection, EMS personnel will:

1. Operate under the guidance and logistical oversight of the overseeing public health official and local specimen collection site director
2. Receive appropriate training on obtaining the required specimen using the necessary equipment by the local specimen collection site
3. Operate under the medical oversight of the overseeing public health official and local specimen collection site director regarding the specimen collection process, including, but not limited to, specimen ordering, handling and transport, storage, and result notification

## PROCEDURE

Refer to the Practical Skill 'Nasopharyngeal Swab' for general guidance on the procedure skill.