

COVID-19 Specimen Packaging Guidance

Hologic Aptima® Testing

COLLECTION:

Use the provided swab to collect a nasopharyngeal, nasal, or throat specimen.

CAUTION: DO NOT HANDLE SWAB BELOW THE BREAK-POINT

SAMPLE PACKAGING:

1. Immediately following collection, place the swab back into the tube of Multitest Swab Transport Media. Break swab at break-point.
2. Screw lid to tube tightly. **Leaking samples cannot be tested.**
3. Label the tube with **name and date of birth**.
4. Place the tube in a plastic biohazard specimen bag.
5. Place the test request form in the **outside pocket** of the biohazard bag.
Do not place in the inside the bag with the specimen. *Do not* staple.
6. If collecting a large volume of samples, place the bagged specimens into a hard-sided container such as a cooler or box for transport to SHL.

SAMPLE DELIVERY:

CDS Courier: Go to <http://www.cdsofiowa.com> to arrange courier pick-up through Central Delivery Service of Iowa. Pickup requests should be entered by 11:00 AM. Samples must be fully prepared and packaged prior to CDS arrival.

Shipping: Ship overnight via UPS or FedEx following Category B shipping requirements.

Hand-delivery: Bring to the State Hygienic Laboratory Sample Drop-Off window during business hours (refer to www.shl.uiowa.edu).

