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](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).

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