

## **Bordetella Pertussis PCR and Bacterial Culture Testing at DCLS**

### **Specimen Collection Instructions**

#### **SPECIMEN COLLECTION KITS:**

*Bordetella pertussis* kits are prepared by DCLS and may be ordered by emailing [DCLS\\_SSSKits@dgs.virginia.gov](mailto:DCLS_SSSKits@dgs.virginia.gov). Upon order receipt, kits will be shipped within 3 business days.

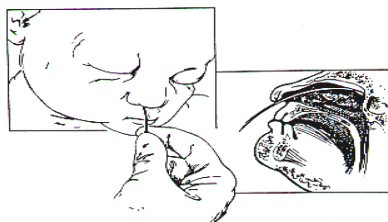
#### **Kit Contents:**

- 1 - 8x10 biohazard bag with pouch & absorbent pad
- 2 - Rayon swabs with blue cap for PCR
- 2 - Calcium alginate swabs in a paper sleeve for bacterial culture
- 1 - Specimen Collection Instructions for *Bordetella pertussis* PCR and Bacterial Culture Testing at DCLS (16859)
- 1 - Regan-Lowe transport media (stored at 2-8°C prior to use)
- 1 - Compartmental bubble pouch
- 1 - DCLS Test Request Form (16857)

**Note: Be sure to check the expiration date on all collection materials before use.**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAMPLE COLLECTION**

1. Samples should be collected within four weeks of symptom onset.
2. Refer to the diagram below for the insertion of swabs into posterior nasopharynx.
3. Simultaneously insert **one calcium alginate and one rayon swab** into the **posterior nasopharynx** of the right naris and rotate gently. **Contact time should be 15-30 seconds or until the patient coughs.**



4. Return the rayon swab with the **blue cap** to the original plastic tube.
5. Label the plastic tube with two patient identifiers, including patient name. Label this tube as **"right"**.
6. Insert the **calcium alginate swab** into the Regan-Lowe Transport Medium; fold the excess shaft of the swab into the tube and recap.
7. Label the Regan-Lowe transport media with two patient identifiers, including patient name.
8. Repeat steps 1-5 for the left naris. Each rayon swab will have a separate plastic tube. Left and right calcium alginate swabs will share the same Regan-Lowe Transport Medium.

#### **IF ONLY ONE SWAB CAN BE INSERTED INTO EACH NARIS:**

- a. **Insert one rayon swab with blue cap into one naris** as described in step 2 and then insert swab into original plastic tube.
  - b. **Insert one calcium alginate swab into the second naris** as described in step 2 and then insert the swab into the Regan-Lowe Transport Medium and recap.
9. Samples must be transported at **2-8°C on cold packs**. Refrigerate samples at 2-8°C if a delay in transportation is anticipated. Transport medium must be received and testing initiated by DCLS within **72 hours of collection**.
  10. Complete the DCLS Test Request Form:
    - a. **The results will only be called to the submitter listed on the form. Be sure the telephone number on the form is the number of the SUBMITTER.**
    - b. **VDH Division of Immunization will be notified of all positive *Bordetella pertussis* results.**
    - c. **Include the collection date, time of collection, clinical description, date of symptom onset, antibiotics administered, and dates antibiotics administered.**

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAMPLE TRANSPORT

Package samples for transport to the laboratory in compliance with the shipping regulations detailed in IATA 1.5 and 49 CFR Section 1720700 [U.S. Department of Transportation].

### DCLS Courier Shipping Guidelines

1. The following should be included for **EACH PATIENT**: one or two rayon swabs with blue caps, one tube of Regan-Lowe Transport Medium containing calcium alginate swab(s), and the completed DCLS Test Request Form (16857).
2. Place the Regan-Lowe tube in the bubble wrap sleeve provided.
3. Place the Regan-Lowe tube and blue cap swabs in the biohazard bag with the absorbent pad in the sealable pouch of the biohazard bag. Seal bag completely.
4. Place the completed DCLS Test Request Form (16857) in the outside pouch of the biohazard bag.
5. Ship specimens at **2-8°C on cold packs**.
6. Place the bag containing the specimens in a box or cooler addressed to DCLS.
7. Place the container in the DCLS courier pick-up site at your facility for next day delivery.

**Note: If specimens are not received at the appropriate transport temperature and/or are not received and tested within 72 hours of collection, the specimen will be rejected**