

## THROAT SWAB FOR CULTURE OR ANTIGEN DETECTION

## **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

For bacteria: CultureSwab or equivalent collection system All others: Virus/Chlamydia/Mycoplasma Collection Pack Call Microbiology /Virology Laboratory 303-861-6703 if collection materials needed

## **METHOD:**

- 1. With the patient's head tilted back and the throat well illuminated, depress the tongue so that the back of the throat can be seen.
- 2. Rub the swab up and down the back of the throat and against any white patches in the tonsillar area. Avoid the tongue and the cheeks.
- 3. Replace the swab in the transport tube. If using the Virus/Chlamydia/ Mycoplasma Collection Kit swab, break off or bend swab shaft, leaving tip in tube.
- 4. Seal tube tightly and label with patient name, date and initials of collector.
- 5. Send the specimen to the laboratory with a completed on-line test order or with a test request form that indicates patient name, account number, medical record number, source, collection date and time, tests ordered, ordering physician's name.

