During limited supply of Viral Transport Media for Nasopharyngeal collections, the following alternate instructions for the collection of Throat and Nares with the Aptima® Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ALTERNATE COLLECTION OF A THROAT AND NARES SWABS FOR COVID-19**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Specimen Source</th>
<th>Store Before Collection</th>
<th>Store After Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aptima® Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit</td>
<td>Throat and Nares to be collected from the single swab. DO NOT USE this swab for Nasopharyngeal collection</td>
<td>Room Temperature</td>
<td>*Refrigerate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOW TO COLLECT THE SAMPLE** (see video link)

1. Explain the procedure to the patient.
2. When collecting the specimen, wear eye protection, gown, gloves, and a mask. Change gloves and wash your hands between each patient. Partially open the swab package and remove the swab. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. Have the patient tilt their head backwards, open their mouth, and stick out their tongue. Use a tongue depressor to hold the tongue in place.
3. Hold the swab, placing the thumb and forefinger in the middle of the shaft covering the black score line. Do not hold the shaft below the score line.
4. Without touching the sides of the mouth or tongue, use the swab to swab the posterior oropharynx. Using the same swab ask the patient to tilt his/her head back. Insert the swab approximately 1-2 cm into each nostril. Rotate the swab inside of the nostril for 3 seconds, covering all surfaces.
5. While holding the swab in your hand, unscrew the tube cap (foil top). Do not spill the tube contents. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so the black score line with the top edge of the tube and carefully break the shaft. The swab will drop to the bottom of the vial. DO NOT FORCE THE SWAB THROUGH OR DO NOT PUNCTURE THE FOIL CAP.
6. Discard the top portion of the shaft. Tightly screw the cap onto the tube.
7. Refrigerate immediately.
8. Remove gloves and wash hands.
10. Attach completed requisition and transport to the laboratory.

**MAKE SURE THE SPECIMEN LABEL INCLUDES**
- Patient’s legal name and date of birth
- Patient’s Health Card Number or another unique identifier (as determined by healthcare provider)

**MAKE SURE THE REQUISITION FORM INCLUDES**
- Patient’s legal name and date of birth
- Patient’s Health Card Number or another unique identifier (as determined by healthcare provider)
- Date and time of collection
- Physicians full name, address and physician registration number

**Note:** If the specimen and requisition are not labelled correctly, the specimen will not be processed.

**DELIVER THE SPECIMEN**

Delivery of sample(s) to the regional laboratory should occur within 4 hours from time of collection. *If transportation is delayed beyond 4 hours, the specimens should be refrigerated and transported to the laboratory using a cooler with ice packs. Transport logistics needs to be maximized to ensure that specimens are received by the QEII laboratory within 24 hours.*