#### Title

#### Bordetella pertussis / Bordetella parapertussis

# Specimen Requirements

- 1. Preferred specimen is Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab / aspirate prior to antibiotic treatment. Specimens collected from the throat are not recommended.
- 2. One sample (2 specimen swabs) per patient.
- 3. The ISDH 2A Pertussis collection kit is required for submitting NP swabs for Pertussis PCR and culture testing.
- a. Use the ISDH 2A kit NP flocked swab for culture in Regan Lowe transport media / Amies transport media is acceptable.
- b. Use the ISDH 2A NP flocked swab for PCR without any media (dryswab for PCR). This swab type is required for PCR Pertussis testing at ISDH, and if other swab types are received they will not be tested.
- 4. Pure culture isolates can be submitted on Regan-Lowe medium or Amies Charcoal medium using commercial shipping containers/appropriate labeling.
- 5. ISDH recommends that the collected specimens for Pertussis testing are received in 24 hours or less by using an overnight delivery or courier service.
- 6. Temperature requirement: Ambient conditions.

#### Sampling Materials

- 1. Use Indiana State Dept Health (ISDH) Pertussis Collection 2A Kit, Call ISDH Containers 317-921-5875.
- 2. 2A Kit contains 2 sterile plastic shaft flocked swabs, one empty plastic tube, one plastic tube with semisolid Regan-Lowe transport media, and instructions on how to collect, handle, and send specimens.
- 3. Deviation in using different or substituted kit materials and/or not following the instructions could result in specimens being reported as unsatisfactory.

#### Procedural Notes

- 1. Be sure to properly label each specimen tube with the patient's name and date of collection.
- 2. Check the expiration date on the transport tube to ensure the product is acceptable and will continue to be acceptable once received at the ISDH laboratory.
- 3. Complete the LimsNet submission form for Pertussis testing. LimsNet is available on the web at http://limsnet.isdh.in.gov. Users should call the lab's LIMS Help Desk to get access to this system. The Help Desk can be reached at 888-535-0011, or locally at 317-921-5506. Submitters can also email the Help Desk at LimsAppsuport@isdh.in.gov.
- 4. Submitter Eligibility: Contact ISDH Epidemiology 317-233-7112.
- 5. Collection of Nasopharyngeal Swab: Insert the Flocked-tipped swab through the nostril into the nasopharynx until the tip reaches the distance equivalent to that from the ear to the nostril of the patient. Rotate the swab several times, remove, and place one swab into the empty plastic conical tube with blue screw cap, and the other swab into the Regan-Lowe transport medium. Tighten the caps securely and label each tube with the patient name and the collection date.

#### Shipping Instructions

### Ship To:

Indiana State Department of Health

Laboratories

550 West 16th Street

Indianapolis, IN. 46202

- 1. Package according to Category B UN3373 triple contained in accordance with federal shipping regulations for infectious substances/diagnostic specimens.
- 2. Tighten the specimen container tube caps.
- 3. Label clearly on each specimen tube with the patient name and collection date.
- 4. Wrap each labeled, primary/specimen container tube with absorbent material. Place each primary container tube with absorbent material into the inner mailing container and tighten the cap securely.
- 5. The printed LimsNet request form should then be wrapped around the sealed inner container and together placed securely into the outer shipping container.
- 6. Clearly label the outer container with the senders name/address and recipients name/address.
- 7. Do not send culture isolates on petri plates if submitting by mail.
- 8. Transport Temperature: Ambient conditions.

## Reporting and TAT

- 1. Reporting method: LimsNet electronic format, Web-based.
- 2. PCR testing is done twice per week.
- 3. Culture takes a minimum of 10 days.
- 4. Test Referral: Isolates may be forwarded to the CDC for additional testing procedures.

Last Modified: