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ISO 15189:2022

# Nose Swab

## Synonyms

## Clinical Indication

To investigate carriage of Lancefield group A streptococcus and Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus; culture for other potential pathogens if indicated by the clinical data given or clearly stated on the request form.

Antral washout, sinus aspirate and sinus washout (ENT samples) are for pathogens and are treated separately.

If whooping cough (pertussis) is suspected, per-nasal swabs must be submitted. Special swabs are available from the Microbiology Department on request.

Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset/contact with the suspected infection and any current or intended antibiotic therapy.

## Part of Profile / See Also

### Request Form

Microbiology or combined Pathology manual request form or ICE request

### Availability / Frequency of Analysis

On request during normal working hours

### Turnaround Time

5 days

## Patient Preparation

### Sample Requirements

#### Specimen Type

Bacterial culture swab in transport medium (see also specific criteria above)

#### Volume

#### Container

See above

**Samples should be transported to laboratory on day of collection.**

## Reference Range & Units

N/A

## Interferences

N/A

## Interpretation & Clinical

### Decision Value (if applicable)

Interpret any culture results from this non-sterile site with caution

## References

[UK SMI Bacteriology | B 5 | Issue no: 7.1 | Issue date: 12.01.15](#) | -  
[Investigation of nasal samples](#)

## Test code

NOSE

## Lab Handling

Samples should be processed as soon as possible.