

NASAL MID-TURBINATE (NMT) SPECIMEN COLLECTION STEPS

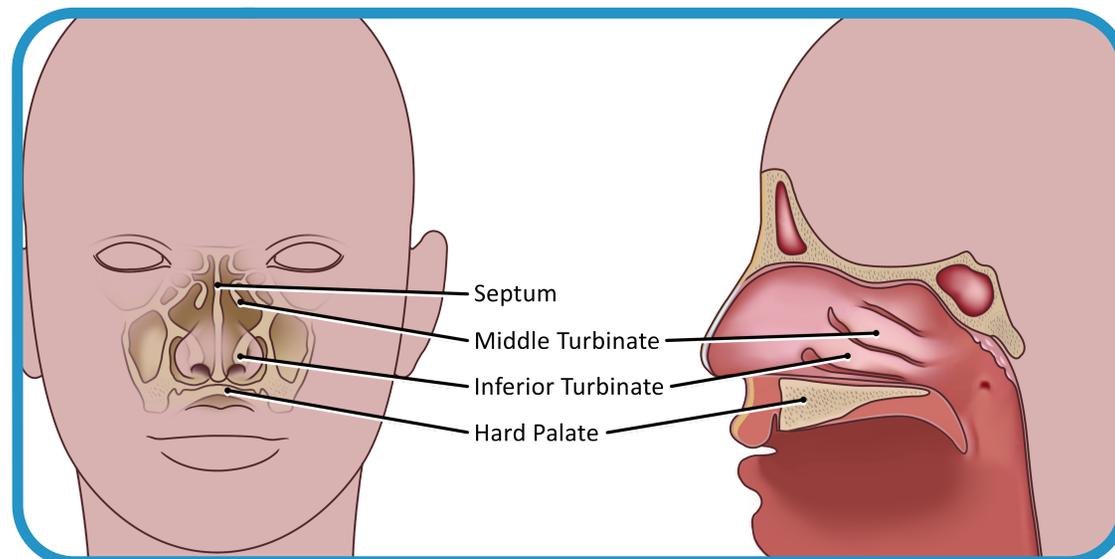


GENERAL GUIDANCE:

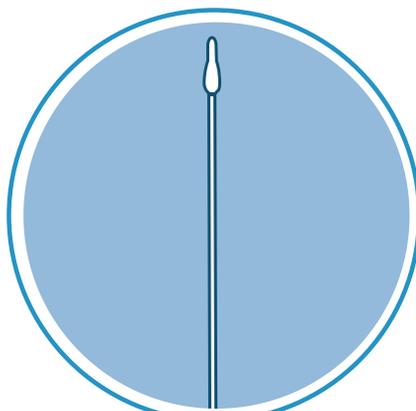
- Ensure that recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn when collecting specimens. This includes gloves, a gown, eye protection (face shield or goggles), and an N-95 or higher-level respirator (or surgical mask if a respirator is not available).
- Gloves must be changed to a new pair for each patient; properly remove old pair and discard into a biohazard waste container.



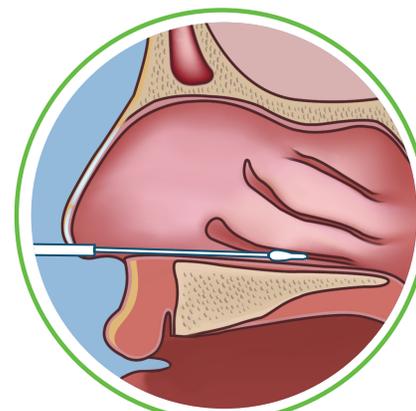
PROPER PPE



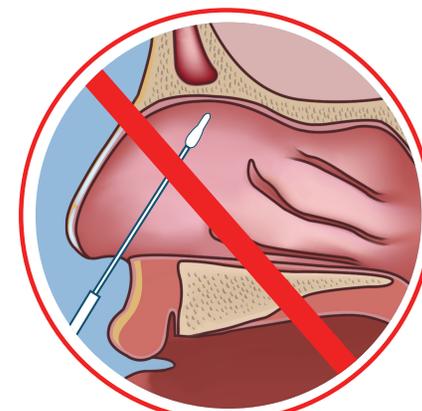
ANATOMICAL REFERENCE



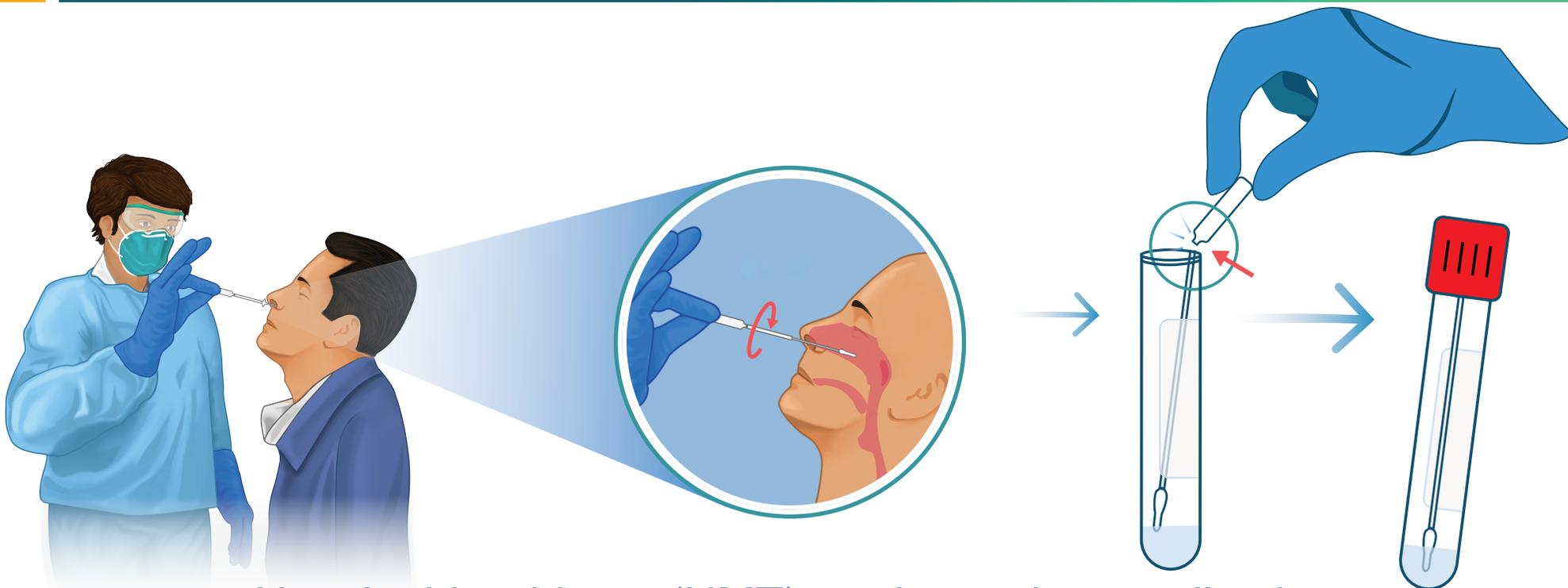
NMT SWAB



PROPER SWAB PLACEMENT



IMPROPER SWAB PLACEMENT



Nasal mid-turbinate (NMT) swab specimen collection

STEP 1

Tilt patient's head back 70 degrees.

Use a flocked tapered swab.

Some swabs come with a stopper, which indicates proper nasal insertion depth.

STEP 2

While gently rotating the swab, insert it less than one inch (about 2 cm) into nostril parallel to the palate until resistance is met at turbinates.

STEP 3

Rotate the swab several times against nasal wall.

Remove swab, insert it into the other nostril and repeat the process.

STEP 4

Place swab, tip first, into the transport tube provided.

Once the tip is near the bottom, break the swab handle at the swab breakpoint by bending back and forth or cut it off with sterile scissors.

The swab should fit in the tube comfortably so that the cap can be screwed on tightly to prevent leakage and contamination.