

Instructions for the collection of specimens for the detection of *Bordetella pertussis* by PCR:

1. FLOQ Swabs can be stored at room temperature.
2. Immobilize the patient's head.
3. Remove the swab from the transport tube.
4. Gently pass the shaft through the nostril into the posterior nasopharynx. DO NOT FORCE THE SWAB; resistance will be felt when the posterior nasopharynx is reached.
5. Rotate the swab and leave it in place for up to 30 seconds or until the patient coughs. Withdraw as quickly as possible.
6. *Repeat the procedure through the second nostril.*
7. After specimen collection, place the swab back into the transport tube and replace the cap.
8. Label the tube appropriately and send to the laboratory with requisition.
9. The specimen may be stored at room temperature.