

Sputum Specimen Collection

COVID-19 testing with SARS-CoV-2 RNA (COVID-19), Qualitative NAAT (test code 39448)

This test has not been FDA cleared or approved. This test has been authorized by FDA under an EUA for use by authorized laboratories and has been authorized only for the detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2, not for any other viruses or pathogens. This test is only authorized for the duration of the declaration that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostic tests detection and/or diagnosis of COVID-19 under Section 564(b)(1) of the Act 21, U.S.C. § 360bbb-3(b)(1), unless the authorization is terminated or revoked sooner.

1



Open the individual collection package

that contains the container. Set the container aside before beginning to collect the specimen.

3



Hold the container in your hand.

5



Press the rim of the container

under the patient's lower lip to catch the entire specimen.

Instruct the patient to avoid dispensing saliva or nasopharyngeal discharges into the vial containing the medium.

2



Instruct the patient to rinse their mouth with water.

4



Instruct the patient to **obtain material from a deep cough.**

6



Replace the cap onto the container and **close tightly** to prevent leaks.

Induction of sputum is **not** recommended by CDC for COVID-19 testing.

Specimens should be transported to your local Quest Diagnostics accessioning laboratory according to standard operating procedures. Cold packs/pouches should be used if placing specimens in a lockbox for courier pick-up. STAT pick-up cannot be ordered for this test.

Specimen stability is as follows:

Room temperature: 5 days

Refrigerated (2 °C–8 °C): 5 days

Frozen (-20 °C): 7 days

Frozen (-70 °C): Acceptable