Instructions & Tips for Novel Influenza A: H1N1 (Swine-like) Virus and/or Seasonal Influenza Specimen Collection and Testing

The pink transport media must be kept refrigerated until it is used to collect a specimen.

Acceptable specimens for testing at Utah Public Health Labs (UPHL) are:

Nasopharyngeal swab
Nasal swab
Throat swab
Combined nasal-throat swab
Nasal Aspirate

(Other samples are not approved at this time for use with our test by FDA)

All other specimen types (such as nasal washes) will NOT be tested.

UPHL's Test Request Form (that includes "Novel Influenza A (H1N1) as well as seasonal influenza testing) is provided in the specimen collection kit. PLEASE make sure you fill the information on the request form out completely or testing will be delayed. If you need help finding your **PROVIDER CODE, please call Chris Peper at 801-584-8286.** Copies of the form may be found on-line at: http://health.utah.gov/epi/h1n1flu/Lab/LabForm.html

After the specimen is collected from the patient, the specimen must be kept refrigerated until it is shipped to the Public Health Laboratory in Salt Lake City.

The specimen must be received at UPHL within 72 hours of collection. Please ship to keep the specimen(s) cool (for example: put an icepack in with the specimen).

Ship to: Unified State Laboratories: Public Health
Molecular Biology Section
4431 South 2700 West
Taylorsville, UT 84119

Any questions regarding Novel or Seasonal Influenza testing my be directed to Molecular Biology at 801-965-2400 or 801-965-2561.