

# COVID-19 Anterior Nasal Swabbing

## PPE for Direct Patient Caregivers for ED and Hospitalized Patients

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Surgical mask  
AND goggles

OR



Surgical mask  
AND face shield

Headgear remains on health care worker through multiple patients (i.e., do not replace per patient).

For soiled headgear – follow facility protocol.

- 2 Fresh gloves for each patient.
- 3 Fresh gown for each patient.
- 4 Proper hand hygiene.

## Instructions on Anterior Nasal Swabbing

### TO OBTAIN AN ANTERIOR NASAL SPECIMEN:

- 1 Insert swab approximately 1 cm (0.5 inch) inside one nostril.
- 2 Firmly sample the nasal mucosa by rotating the swab several times, and then hold in place against mucosa for 10 to 15 seconds.
- 3 Use same swab to repeat procedure in other nostril.



### OPTION FOR PATIENT SELF-COLLECTION:

- 1 Provide patient with swab and instructions above. For better understanding, you can refer to “nasal mucosa” as “inside nostril”.
- 2 Keep six feet of distance from patient while observing patient perform the self-collection process.

