# Community Testing for Suspected Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**Please ensure you have the following items ready before undertaking this procedure:**

1. **Correct PPE ***
2. **Prelabelled swabs and request form**
3. **Cat B UN3373 transport box, obtainable from the DSN (Duty Senior Nurse) and Phlebotomy Dept**
4. **Double bagged yellow clinical waste bags**

**\* PLEASE CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT FOR THE CORRECT PPE INSTRUCTION AND METHODS OF WEARING AND TAKING OFF:**
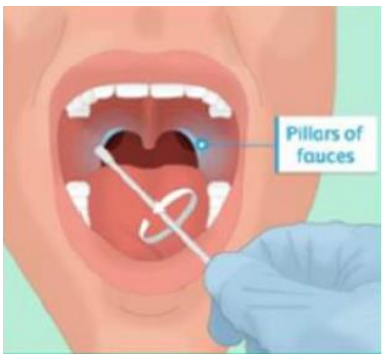


PPE PROTOCOL

**Taking the Sample**

1.  Before starting, make sure the pathology request form is clearly marked as:

    **FOR:   COVID-19 TESTING**
    **VIROLOGY DEPARTMENT**

2.  Once PPE has been put on, take one prelabelled swab to the patient.

3.  Using red or green top viral transport swab, collect a throat and nose swab using a single swab. This can be done by swabbing the throat first and then nose:



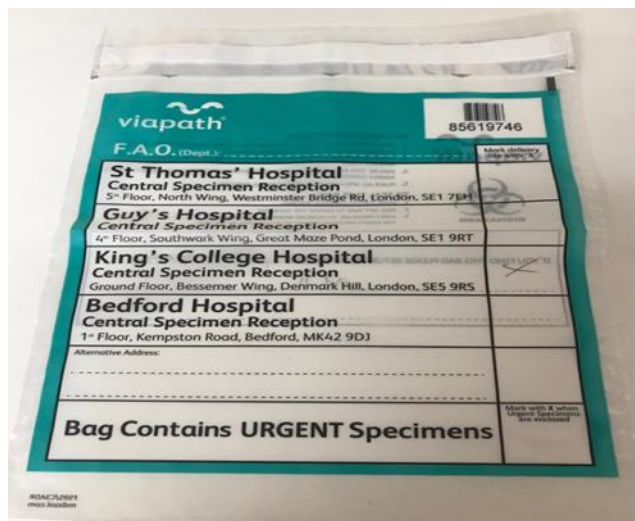4.  Place swab in the swab container, break swab and seal container as below:



5.  Make sure the patient details are written on the swab

6.  Place sealed sample containers into the sample bag attached to the Pathology request form and seal the bag.

7. Dispose of the broken ends of the swabs into clinical waste
8. **Only when it is safe to do so**; Remove your PPE as described in the PPE Protocol (Page 1)
9. Dispose of your PPE into the yellow double bagged clinical waste bags and seal the waste bags
10. Place the swab into a Cat – B UN3373 transport box:



11. **ENSURE THE SAMPLE IS PLACED INSIDE THE PLASTIC CONTAINER AND FIRMLY SEALED BEFORE PUTTING BACK INTO THE BOX**

12. Now place this box into a specimen transport bag:



13. Now seal the transport bag
14. Take the transport bag to pathology pickup point for collection (**SEE NEXT PAGE**), and dispose of your clinical waste bags as per the Trusts clinical waste policy
15. Make sure you now call the Virology department on: xxx and advise them of the incoming coronavirus sample and request. Out of hours, please contact Switchboard on xxx and ask to speak to the on-call Microbiologist and notify them of the sample and request.