Ophthalmology Specimen Collection Instructions



Supplies

- ▶ 1 sterile thick swab
- ▶ 1 molecular transport tube
- ▶ 1 specimen bag

To ensure safety and validity of the sample it is important to follow these instructions.

Eyelid / Conjunctival / Corneal / Other Orbital Area Swab

If using a swab:

- 1. Thoroughly swab the area(s) of interest by rotating the swab 5 10 times (fully saturate the swab).
- **2.** For conjunctival or eyelid swabs, separate swabs can be obtained from both eyes, and placed in the same collection tube, or into "Right" and/or "Left" side designated tubes, IF clinically indicated.
- 3. Immediately place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
- **4.** Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap with the swab remaining in the tube.

If using a corneal spatula:

- 1. Using a sterile spatula, collect corneal scrapings.
- 2. Transfer material directly into MTM tube. A new sterile spatula will be required for any additional passes with the spatula.
- 3. After transferring material into the MTM tube, securely tighten the tube cap.



