



## Nasopharyngeal Swabbing Procedure

1. As the horse could have contagious disease, wear PPE, including a boiler suit, gloves and ideally a hair covering.
2. If contaminated, clean and dry nostril prior to sampling\*.
3. Hold nostril open as if passing a nasogastric tube, passing swab into the horse's head via the ventral meatus.
4. Using a circular motion allow the swab to make contact with the walls of the pharynx.
5. Remove the swab from the horse and cut off the swab end into a sample pot, avoiding contamination of the outside of the pot\*\*. Ensure that these scissors are disinfected after each use, to prevent contamination leading to a false positive PCR at the next sampling.

\*Environmental material can interfere with PCR diagnostics leading to "inhibition" of the process.

\*\*Naso-pharyngeal swabs for PCR can be submitted dry, moistened or in viral transport medium but NOT bacterial transport medium. Samples for culture only can be submitted in plain sterile pots or in bacterial transport medium but NOT viral transport medium. **Samples for respiratory panels can be transmitted plain or moistened.**

Please contact us on 01626 355 655 if you have any questions.

Axiom Veterinary Laboratories, The Manor House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4PB.

Email: [admin@axiomvetlab.co.uk](mailto:admin@axiomvetlab.co.uk)