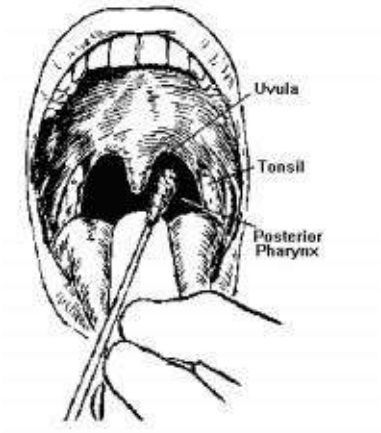
Sampling Techniques in lieu of

Oropharyngeal Swab:

1. Push the tongue downwards with a tongue depressor or hold it with fingers and gauze.
2. Insert swab into the posterior pharynx and tonsillar areas.
3. Rub swab over both tonsillar pillars and posterior oropharynx so that as many cells as possible are collected from the mucosal surface.
4. Avoid touching the tongue, cheek, teeth, and gums.



Nasopharyngeal Aspirate:

1. Nasopharyngeal secretions are aspirated through a catheter connected to a mucus trap and fitted to a vacuum source.
2. The catheter is inserted into the nostril parallel to the palate.
3. The vacuum is applied and the catheter is slowly withdrawn with a rotating motion.
4. Mucus from the other nostril is collected with the same catheter in a similar manner.
5. After mucus has been collected from both nostrils, the catheter is flushed with 3 ml of transport medium.



Specimen collection from a recently deceased patient:

If a patient dies before a respiratory specimen is taken collect nasopharyngeal swabs postmortem in addition to the following:

- An endotracheal aspirate
  - If the corpse has an endotracheal tube in place, collect a deep endotracheal aspirate.

OR

- A Lung Tissue Sample
  - If the circumstance allows, perform tissue sampling by incision or by needle from the affected lung(s).