

Swabbing for Conjunctivitis

When swabbing for suspected ILI or ARI *with* conjunctivitis, please take the following steps:

1. Take the nasopharyngeal swab as usual and place in the specimen tube.
2. Open a second swab pack and take a swab from each eye, or just from one if the infection appears presents in one eye. It is best to roll the swab gently against the lower eyelid, near the nasolacrimal duct.
3. Place the swab in a second specimen tube (see **IMAGE 1**)
4. Mark the outside of the second specimen tube “CONJUNCTIVAL” (see **IMAGE 1**)
5. Place the specimen bottles inside their respective carrier tubes and put **both** carrier bottles inside **ONE** box and **ONE** prepaid envelope (see **IMAGE 2**)
6. Please place **ONE** form inside the box. When filling in the form, please write “SECOND CONJUNCTIVAL SPECIMEN” in the section under D.O.B, as indicated below:

E4 Respiratory Virus RCGP Surveillance

Public Health England
 Virus Reference Department
 61 Colindale Avenue
 London NW9 5HT
 Phone +44 (0)20 8327 6017/6266 (VRD)
 VRDqueries@phe.gov.uk DX 6530006
 PHE Colindale Colindale NW

Please write clearly in dark ink

request form

GP Details

Project code **ERCGP21**

PHE Requestor code

PATIENT/SOURCE INFORMATION

NHS number

Surname

Forename

Sex male female

Date of birth D D M M Y Y

SECOND CONJUNCTIVAL SPECIMEN

If you or your practice staff require any further guidance or would like to speak to us, please email us on practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk

PLEASE TURN OVER

IMAGE 1: EXAMPLE OF GREEN TOP TUBES WITH NASOPHARYNGEAL AND CONJUNCTIVAL SWABS



IMAGE 2: EXAMPLE OF KIT CONTAINING BOTH NASOPHARYNGEAL AND CONJUNCTIVAL SWABS IN CARRIER TUBES, PLACED WITHIN ONE BOX

