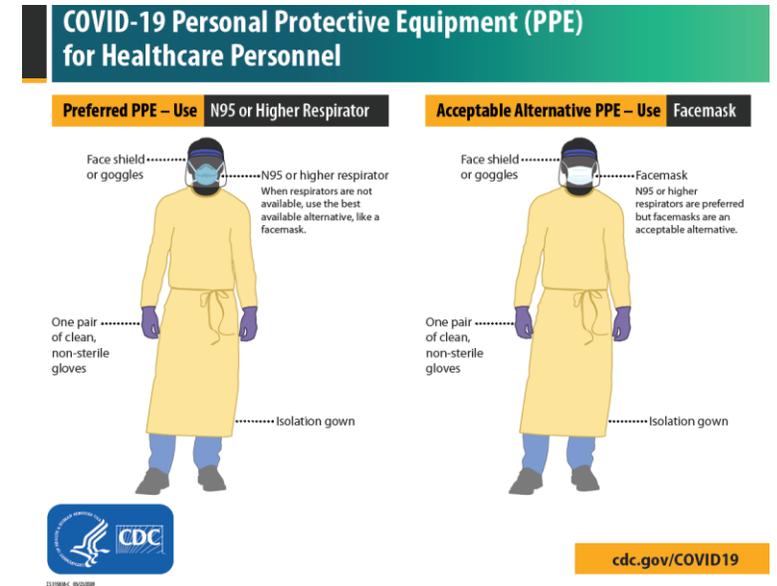




SOUTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# PPE

- [SD DOH PPE REQUEST](#)
- All PPE required for specimen collection
  - N-95 (Or high level Respirator) or Facemask if respirator is not available
    - PAPR also appropriate
  - Eye Protection
  - Gloves
  - Gown
  - [Performing Broad-Based Testing for SARS-CoV-2 in Congregate Settings](#)



## Orders for testing

- Orders for testing will have to come from a medical director, facility physician, or other physician. Standing orders, or individual orders will be appropriate.

# Supplies Needed

[Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#): N95 equivalent or higher-level respirator (or facemask if respirators are not available), facemasks, gloves, gowns, eye protection (goggles or disposable face shields that cover the front and sides of the face), and physical barriers (e.g., plexiglass).

[Cloth face coverings](#) or facemasks for people being tested.

Sanitation and hygiene: [cleaning and disinfection](#) supplies; trash bags and cans; touchless dispensers with [hand sanitizer](#);<sup>1</sup> handwashing station with potable water, soap, and paper towels; and supplies for cleaning a spill of transport media or biological specimens.

Registration and interview materials:<sup>2</sup> folding chairs, folding table, clipboards, pens, markers, specimen sticker labels,<sup>3</sup> paper forms, laptops or tablets, software,<sup>4</sup> and access to power.

[Test kits](#): plastic specimen transport bags, sterile swabs, specimen collection vials with transport media, and prefilled labels.

[Educational materials](#): as needed

General supplies: tape to mark lines for [6 feet of separation](#), cooler and ice packs, on-site refrigeration with temperature monitor, first aid kit, portable [pulse oximeter](#), and portable blood pressure cuff/monitor for use by the on-site medical team.

*Notes:*

<sup>1</sup> Alcohol-based hand rub with 60%-95% alcohol.

<sup>2</sup> Use items made of materials that can be cleaned between individuals.

<sup>3</sup> Ideally, preprinted with space for date, name, date of birth, ID number, and specimen type.

<sup>4</sup> Contact tracing software being used by public health authority or spreadsheet with fields for demographic information, location and date of testing, and results.

# Planning

- PPE requirements vary based on the staff's role in specimen collection and whether they will be 6 feet away from the person being tested (Table):
  - Gloves and facemask are needed for staff who will not be directly involved in specimen collection or who will be greater than 6 feet away from person being tested.
  - Gown, N95 equivalent or higher-level respirator (or facemask if a respirator is not available), gloves, and eye protection are needed for staff collecting specimens or working within 6 feet of the person being tested.
- Consider whether you can minimize the number of staff needed and amount of PPE used by having individuals [collect their own specimens](#) while being supervised by healthcare providers who are at least 6 feet away.
- Ensure that all staff involved in specimen collection are appropriately [trained](#) and wear [PPE](#) as appropriate to their role. Training includes [proper use of PPE](#), including donning and doffing; and proper technique for [specimen collection](#).

For staff having direct contact with participants or specimens, gloves should be changed and hands sanitized after every participant. Staff not having regular direct contact with participants or specimens should change their gloves and sanitize their hands after contacting individuals or potentially contaminated surfaces.

Staff should change or clean and sanitize eye protection when it is soiled (e.g., after a patient sneezes or coughs onto it) or whenever they touch it or take it off.

Staff should change their respirators and facemasks whenever they are soiled or become wet or whenever they touch them or take them off.

Staff should change their gown when it becomes soiled or when they have more than minimal contact with the person being swabbed. They may wear the same gown to swab more than one person, provided they minimize contact with the person being swabbed.

# Physical Space

- In general, an outdoor location for mass testing events is preferred because it has better ventilation and more room for social distancing. Provide climate-controlled or climate-protected rest areas (large enough for social distancing) for staff.
- If an outdoor location is not feasible, large indoor spaces (e.g., gymnasiums) are best, where sufficient space can be maintained between stations (i.e., periphery greater than 6 feet apart).
- For indoor specimen collection activities, designate separate spaces for each specimen collection testing station, either rooms with doors that close fully or protected spaces removed from other stations by distance and physical barriers, such as privacy curtains and plexiglass.
  - To prevent inducing coughing/sneezing in an environment where multiple people are present and could be exposed, avoid collecting specimens in open-style housing spaces with current residents or in multi-use areas where other activities are occurring.
  - To increase air exchanges and to expedite removing infectious particles, adopt protective engineering control ventilation techniques (see [MMWR Vol 43 \(RR13\)](#) , Supplement 3: Engineering Controls) such as negative pressure testing rooms, local exhaust source control, directional airflows, adequate ventilation, and/or the use of portable HEPA filters.
- Do not keep testing and other supplies in the immediate specimen collection area to avoid the possibility of contamination test materials. Consider having each person carry their prefilled specimen bag (containing a swab and labeled sterile viral transport media container) from the check-in area to the specimen collection area.
- [Clean and disinfect](#) all surfaces often using an Environmental Protection Agency-registered disinfectant from [List N](#)  :
  - At least hourly for surfaces within 6 feet of where specimen collection was performed;
  - Anytime the surface is visibly soiled or within 6 feet of an uncovered cough or sneeze;
  - At the end of shift for all surfaces and equipment in the specimen collection area.

# Donning and Doffing PPE

## Donning (putting on the gear):

*More than one donning method may be acceptable. Training and practice using your healthcare facility's procedure is critical. Below is one example of donning.*

1. **Identify and gather the proper PPE to don.** Ensure choice of gown size is correct (based on training).
2. **Perform hand hygiene using hand sanitizer.**
3. **Put on isolation gown.** Tie all of the ties on the gown. Assistance may be needed by another HCP.
4. **Put on NIOSH-approved N95 filtering facepiece respirator or higher (use a facemask if a respirator is not available).**

If the respirator has a nosepiece, it should be fitted to the nose with both hands, not bent or tented. Do not pinch the nosepiece with one hand. Respirator/facemask should be extended under chin. Both your mouth and nose should be protected. Do not wear respirator/facemask under your chin or store in scrubs pocket between patients.\*

  - » **Respirator:** Respirator straps should be placed on crown of head (top strap) and base of neck (bottom strap). Perform a user seal check each time you put on the respirator.
  - » **Facemask:** Mask ties should be secured on crown of head (top tie) and base of neck (bottom tie). If mask has loops, hook them appropriately around your ears.
5. **Put on face shield or goggles.** When wearing an N95 respirator or half facepiece elastomeric respirator, select the proper eye protection to ensure that the respirator does not interfere with the correct positioning of the eye protection, and the eye protection does not affect the fit or seal of the respirator. Face shields provide full face coverage. Goggles also provide excellent protection for eyes, but fogging is common.
6. **Put on gloves.** Gloves should cover the cuff (wrist) of gown.
7. **HCP may now enter patient room.**

## Doffing (taking off the gear):

*More than one doffing method may be acceptable. Training and practice using your healthcare facility's procedure is critical. Below is one example of doffing.*

1. **Remove gloves.** Ensure glove removal does not cause additional contamination of hands. Gloves can be removed using more than one technique (e.g., glove-in-glove or bird beak).
2. **Remove gown.** Untie all ties (or unsnap all buttons). Some gown ties can be broken rather than untied. Do so in gentle manner, avoiding a forceful movement. Reach up to the shoulders and carefully pull gown down and away from the body. Rolling the gown down is an acceptable approach. Dispose in trash receptacle.\*
3. **HCP may now exit patient room.**
4. **Perform hand hygiene.**
5. **Remove face shield or goggles.** Carefully remove face shield or goggles by grabbing the strap and pulling upwards and away from head. Do not touch the front of face shield or goggles.
6. **Remove and discard respirator (or facemask if used instead of respirator).\*** Do not touch the front of the respirator or facemask.
  - » **Respirator:** Remove the bottom strap by touching only the strap and bring it carefully over the head. Grasp the top strap and bring it carefully over the head, and then pull the respirator away from the face without touching the front of the respirator.
  - » **Facemask:** Carefully untie (or unhook from the ears) and pull away from face without touching the front.
7. **Perform hand hygiene after removing the respirator/facemask** and before putting it on again if your workplace is practicing reuse.

## PPE Donning and Doffing FAQ's

- Used PPE can go into regular trash
- There are many different Donning and Doffing Procedures, so please refer to facility policy
- Risk reduction activities
  - Outside/garage collection
  - Facemask over mouth of person collected
  - other



- Collect swabs for SARS-CoV-2 following the appropriate laboratory and CDC Infection Control Guidance, as well as in consultation with your facility or system level infection control staff.
  - [Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Healthcare Settings](#)
  - [Using Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
  - [Performing Broad-Based Testing for SARS-CoV-2 in Congregate Settings](#)

- Ensure your facility has appropriate quantity of PPE available to perform testing following CDC guidelines (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html> ).  
PPE can be requested from the State of South Dakota using the following link ([SD DOH PPE REQUEST](#) )
- Ensure N-95 fit tested employees are available to perform specimen collection at your facility.
- Assess the number of healthcare personnel (HCP) at your location. HCP include, but are not limited to, emergency medical service personnel, nurses, nursing assistants, physicians, technicians, therapists, phlebotomists, pharmacists, students and trainees, contractual staff not employed by the healthcare facility, and persons not directly involved in patient care but who could be exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted in the healthcare setting (e.g., clerical, dietary, environmental services, laundry, security, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing, and volunteer personnel).  
Plan for 1 test per HCP
- Identify the laboratory that will be performing this mass testing event  
Obtain collection, shipping supplies, and laboratory requisitions from laboratory  
Consult with the lab to identify specimen collection, source, shipping requirements, as well as proper documentation.
- Orders for testing will have to come from a medical director, facility physician, or other physician. Standing orders, or individual orders will be appropriate.
- Collect swabs for SARS-CoV-2 following the appropriate laboratory and CDC Infection Control Guidance, as well as in consultation with your facility or system level infection control staff.

[Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Healthcare Settings Using Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)

# Priority Populations for SARS-CoV-2 Testing

- Hospitalized individuals
- Healthcare workers, **first responders**, and active military
- Critical infrastructure workers in food manufacturing and agriculture
- Individuals in communal living settings like long-term care facilities
- Underinsured or uninsured individuals
- Low-income individuals or individuals unable to pay for testing
- Homeless individuals

# Testing for SARS-CoV-2

- **Diagnostic Tests:** detect active SARS-CoV-2 infections; SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19.
- **Antibody Tests:** detect past SARS-CoV-2 infections; antibody tests typically detect IgM and/or IgG
- **Mass Testing:** testing a large number of individuals in a short amount of time to determine the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 in a specific population
- **Sentinel Testing:** testing a few asymptomatic members of a population over time (ie. each week)

# Testing for SARS-CoV-2: Requirements

- Must be ordered by a health care provider
- Participants or patients must consent to testing
- Information is gathered that must accompany the specimen
  - ✓ Name and date of birth
  - ✓ Address
  - ✓ Phone number
- Specimens are collected using:
  - ✓ Appropriate PPE
  - ✓ Appropriate specimen collection technique
- Specimens are packaged and shipped to a laboratory for testing

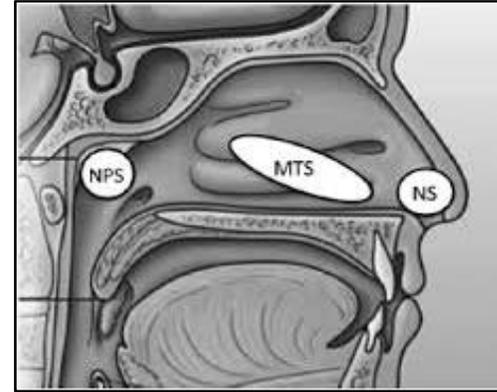
# First Responder: Specimen Collection



Foam Swabs



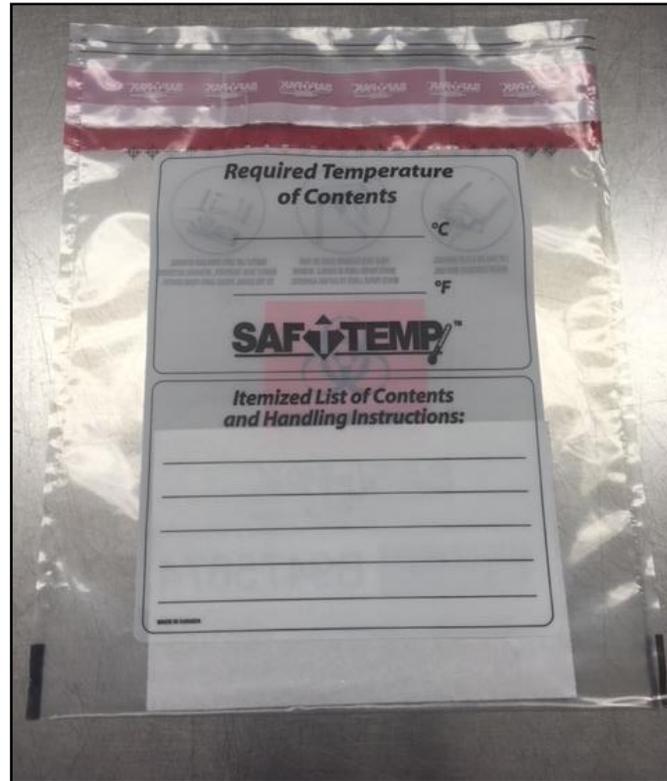
Sterile Saline



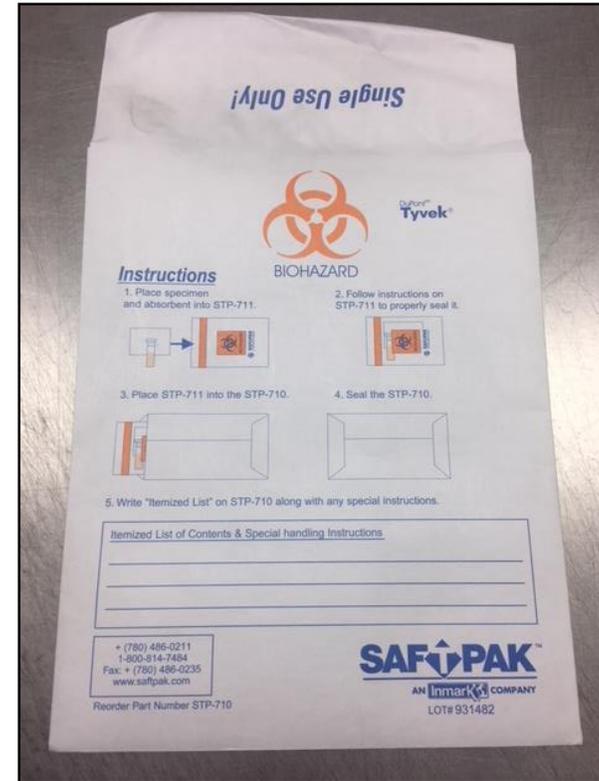
Collection Instructions:

<https://www.puritanmedproducts.com/videos/library/video/21>

# First Responder: Packaging Materials

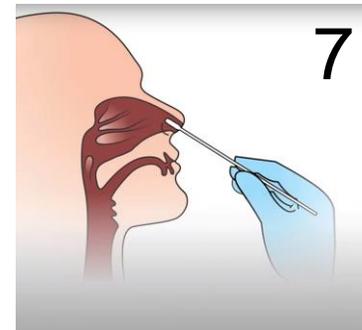
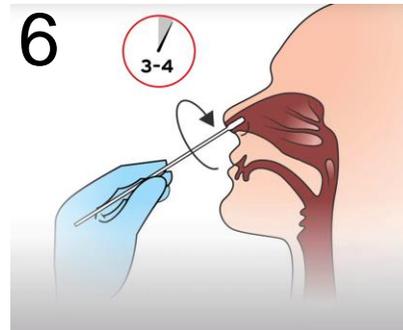
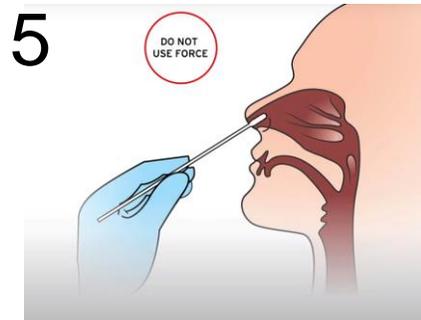
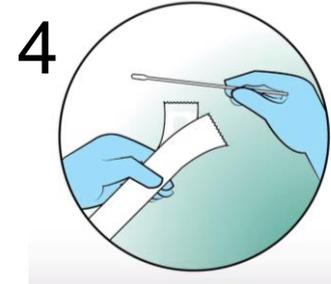
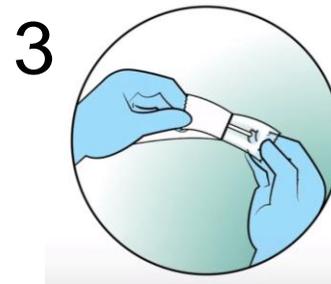


Biohazard Bag



Tyvek Envelope

# Nasal Specimen Collection Instructions



Collection Instructions:

<https://www.puritanmedproducts.com/videos/library/video/>

# Additional Instructions: Specimen Collection



Open swab pouch from stick end

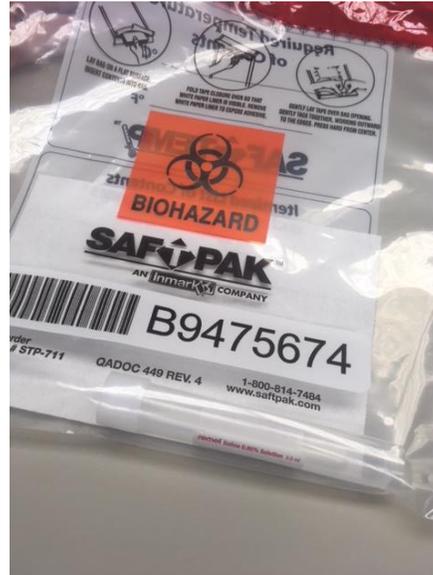


Do not open swab pouch from swab end

# Additional Instructions: Packaging



Following collection, break-off or cut plastic shaft leaving swab in the vial. Recap the vial.



Place vial with swab in the plastic biohazard bag and seal by removing plastic tape strip.



Place biohazard bag with specimen and the requisition in the Tyvek envelope and seal the envelope.



Place specimens in provided cooler with frozen ice packs (also provided – but you will need to freeze them)

# Additional Instructions: Shipping

## Ordering an On-demand Service:

- Place your pick up on the MedSpeed Portal: [Avera.medspeed.com](https://Avera.medspeed.com)
- Contact MedSpeed On-Demand at **877-434-9366 Option 1**
  - Have the following information accessible: pick-up location, address, contact person and phone number
- Select the Service Type
  - See the list below for the On-demand service standards

<b>Scheduled</b>	MedSpeed dispatchers will work with you to determine if an On-demand pickup can be done on a scheduled basis, based on existing route schedule.
<b>Will Call</b>	Delivered on day of notification, based on existing route schedule.
<b>Same Day</b>	Same-day delivery within standard business hours.

# SARS-CoV-2 Testing and Results

- SDPHL provides 24-48 hour turn-around time on SARS-CoV-2 testing but TAT is test volume-dependent
- Results will be given to the ordering health care provider listed on each requisition
  - Secure Fax: for providers with a secure fax agreement in place
  - USPS: hardcopy result by mail if secure fax agreement is not in place
- The ordering healthcare provider will provide the SARS-CoV-2 test result to each participant