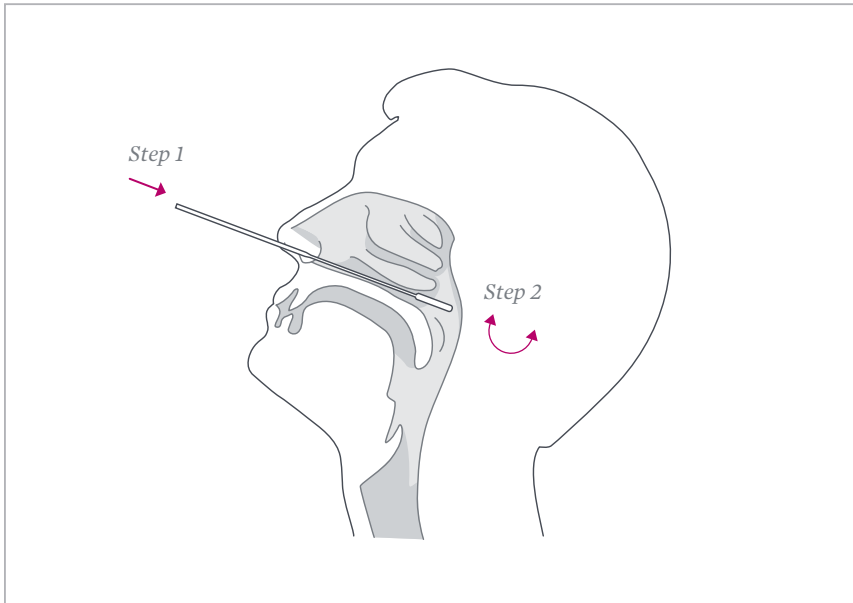




## TECH TIPS

# COLLECTION OF A NASOPHARYNGEAL SWAB



- 1 Carefully insert the swab into the nostril exhibiting the most visible drainage, or the nostril that is most congested if drainage is not visible. Pass the swab directly backwards without tipping the swab head up or down. The nasal passage runs parallel to the floor, not parallel to the bridge of the nose.
- 2 Using gentle rotation, insert the swab into the anterior nares parallel to the palate advancing the swab into the nasopharynx, leave in place for a few seconds, and then slowly rotate the swab as it is being withdrawn.

To ensure proper collection, the swab should be passed a distance that is halfway of that from the nose to the tip of the ear. This is about half the length of the swab. **DO NOT USE FORCE** while inserting the swab. The swab should travel smoothly with minimal resistance; if resistance is encountered, withdraw the swab a little bit without taking it out of the nostril. Then elevate the back of the swab and move it forward into the nasopharynx.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Products have specific requirements regarding specimen collection. Please refer to the specific product package insert.
- For optimal performance, use the swabs provided in the test kit.