THROAT SWAB COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS – WASH HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER PROCEDURE

1. Place the sample tube in the rack. Unscrew the cap and place cap on a clean paper towel. Partially peel open the swab package as shown in Figure 1. Remove the swab.

2. Hold the swab as shown in Figure 2, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft covering the black score line. Do not touch the soft tip of the swab, lay the swab down, or drop the swab. If you do, request a new collection kit from the lab. Withdraw the swab without touching the inside of your cheeks or tongue.

3. Using a mirror- Carefully insert the swab into your mouth as shown in Figure 3, ensuring contact with the back of your throat and each tonsil on both sides of your throat.

4. Immediately place the swab into the uncapped sample tube so that the black score line is at the top of the tube as shown in Figure 4.

5. Carefully break the swab shaft at the black score line against the side of the tube as shown in Figure 5.

6. Immediately discard the top portion of the swab shaft in the trash as shown in Figure 6.

7. Tightly screw the cap onto the tube. Put the tube in the sample bag. Place in the metal rotating bin in the bathroom wall.