

## Instructions for collection and submission of specimens for Detection of *Bordetella pertussis* by PCR

### I. Collection kit

- A. Unit 15 (IATA Category B)
- B. NP swab with transport tube

### II. Sample collection- to prevent possible false-positive PCR test results, specimens should **NOT** be collected in the same area used for pertussis vaccination.

- A. Immobilize the patient's head and remove the NP swab from the transport tube.
- B. Using sterile technique, gently pass through the nostril into the nasopharynx. **DO NOT FORCE THE SWAB!**
- C. After specimen collection, place the swab back into the transport tube.
- D. Make sure the cap is completely closed.

### III. Labeling

- A. Label the tube with the complete patient name and at least 1 unique identifier (For example: specimen number, medical record number, etc.).
- B. Enter the required information on the test requisition form (DCH-0583). The patient name and unique identifier on the form must be entered **exactly** the same as the information on the tube.
- C. If there are multiple specimens, please label each specimen tube and use a separate test requisition for each specimen.

### IV. Package and shipping

- A. Specimens be sent MDHHS immediately after collection.  
**NOTE: If culture is requested, please contact the laboratory at 517-335-8067 for further information.**
- B. Insert the specimen and absorbent pad into the small plastic bag provided. Make sure it is sealed. Place in the large plastic bag with the Biohazard symbol (Bio-Bag).
- C. Place the completed MDHHS test requisition in the outside pocket of the Bio-Bag. Seal the bag.
- D. Close the box and secure with sealing tape on both sides of the flap.
- E. Attach the completed address label with the UN3733 label attached.
- F. Send to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services laboratory as soon as possible (e.g. courier, 1<sup>st</sup> class mail (USPS), United Parcel Service (UPS), etc.).
- G. Instructions are also available by visiting, <http://www.Michigan.gov/mdhhs/lab>
- H. The specimen will not be tested if:
  - 1. The specimen is not properly labeled or the test requisition not completed.
  - 2. The specimen label does not match the test requisition.

### V. **Packaging and shipping are the responsibility of the shipper. Please be sure it is in compliance with shipping regulations.**



Unit 15-*Bordetella pertussis* collection kit