

## LABORATORY TESTING FOR INPATIENT

**Note: 2 sets of Respiratory samples to be taken**

**\*LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT SPECIMENS (LRTSs):**

Deep cough sputum, bronchoalveolar lavage, tracheal aspirate, pleural fluid, lung tissue

**UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT SPECIMENS (URTSs):**

**COMBINED** nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs (NP and OP swabs), nasopharyngeal aspirate / wash<sup>a</sup>

**SERUM SPECIMENS<sup>b</sup>**

Bronchoalveolar lavage, tracheal aspirate, sputum, pleural fluid, nasopharyngeal aspirate / wash

Plain sterile container

Combined NP/OP swabs, lung tissue

Viral transport media (VTM)

Send the specimens in ice to the laboratory **as soon as possible**  
Keep specimens at 4°C

**DO NOT FREEZE**

Transport specimens in ice  
(**Triple Packaging**)

**Send to**

**1. IMR<sup>c</sup> – all hospitals except Sabah and WP Labuan for Real time RT-PCR for 2019-nCoV, Viral Isolation, Electron Microscopy and Sequencing, Serology**

**2. MKAKK<sup>c</sup> -for Sabah and WP Labuan only for Real time RT-PCR for 2019-nCoV**

**Send to**

**Hospital lab/designated lab for influenza A & B RT PCR**

**NOTE:**

<sup>a</sup>Do not use wooden shaft / cotton swab. Use dacron / rayon / polyester swabs.

<sup>b</sup>Serum sample to be collected in serum separator tube and send to IMR.  
Sample from contacts to be send to MKAK

<sup>c</sup>Consult with the IMR and MKAKK Officers first before sending samples.  
All clinical sample while awaiting to be send to IMR/MKAK/MKAKK

- If transportation of sample is within 72 hours, store at 2-8°C
- If transportation of sample is after 72 hours, store at -80°C