SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR  
BORDETELLA PERTUSSIS and PARAPERTUSSIS

1. The *Bordetella* species collection kit, provided by the Division of Microbiology, includes:
   a. One universal transport media tube.
   b. One sterile Dacron® polyester-tipped swab suitable for the collection of nasopharyngeal specimens.

2. The specimen of choice is a nasopharyngeal swab in universal transport media. (See picture below for proper collection of specimens)

![Image of proper nasopharyngeal swab collection]

   a. Place the swab in the universal transport media.
   b. Cut the excess length of the wire shaft of the swab with a clean scissors and cap the tube tightly.
   c. Label the tube with the patient’s name and date of birth.

3. Return the universal transport media to the zip-lock plastic biohazard bag that contained the collection supplies.

4. Complete a Laboratory Test Request Form with the requested information. Be sure to complete the Patient Data section (symptoms and immunization history). Select the test “*Bordetella* species HDA.”

5. Place the specimen (in the biohazard bag) and the completed request form into a category B shipping container provided by the Division of Microbiology.

6. Send within 4 days refrigerated to:
   Division of Microbiology
   2635 East Main Avenue
   Bismarck, ND 58506