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# Correct use of swabs for COVID-19 testing

## Biohazard bag transport for COVID-19 swabs

18 August 2020

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Feedback has been received that transport media provided with the Noble Bio swabs is leaking. This is not the case – the CTM will not leak if the lid is put back on correctly.

**\*\* IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOBLE BIO SWAB USERS\*\***

**The lid must be screwed back on to the point where resistance is felt – and then past that until a “click” is heard.**

### **NOBLE BIO – Clinical Virus Transport Medium (CTM)**

Note: the Noble Bio package contains two swabs: the finer one is for nasopharyngeal swabbing, the larger one is an oropharyngeal swab. Please use one swab per patient only and discard the other.

The current Ministry of Health guidelines are to use the nasopharyngeal swab when testing for COVID-19.

These swabs have been validated for use by Auckland District Health Board.



### **BIOHAZARD BAGS**

There is currently a national shortage of Biohazard bags. One bag per sample is sufficient from a Health and Safety perspective. Please use only one.

**Dr Gary McAullffe**

**Medical Director – Labtests and Northland Pathology**

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