

## **Throat Swab Collection Procedure**

### *Supplies Needed:*

- Culturette® tube
- Tongue blade
- Gloves (mask and eye protection, as needed)
- Patient Identification label (to be placed on Culturette®)
- Laboratory request form (properly labeled with patient identification label)

### *Procedure:*

1. Apply gloves, eye protection, and mask (mask as needed, depending on anticipated exposure).
2. Keeping cotton applicator sterile, remove from Culturette® tube.
3. Depress tongue with tongue blade, if indicated.
4. Insert cotton tip of applicator to **back of patient's throat**, and swab area.
5. Place applicator in Culturette® tube.
6. Label specimen with patient's name (first and last), date of birth, date and time of collection, and source of specimen.