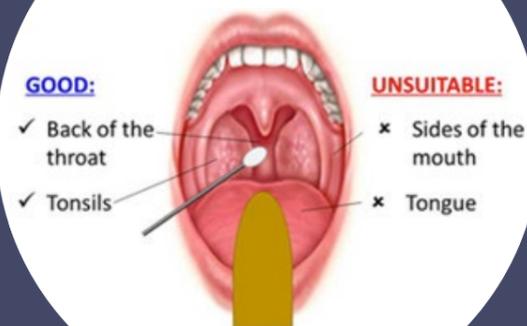


# MRSA Screening

## SWAB COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS GUIDANCE FOR STAFF

### NOSE/THROAT/AXILLA/GROIN SWABS

Use MWe Transwab MW167S (white top) with two swab sticks and liquid transport medium tube. Explain to the patient what you are going to do with each swab. If swabbing of a particular site is declined by the patient, send the sample with as many of the remaining sites screened as possible.



### SWAB ONE Nose and Throat (White Stick):

- Insert the swab into the mouth and swab the back of the throat (posterior pharynx and tonsils areas). Use tongue depressor if needed. Swab for 5 seconds, this may require more than one pass of the swab if the patient gags.
- Next insert the same swab into both nostril 1-2cm and perform five circular sweeps in each nostril.
- Place swab into the liquid transport medium tube, carefully bend white stick against tube until it breaks at black line. Leave swab in tube, dispose non-swab end in clinical waste and screw cap back onto tube.

### SWAB TWO Axilla and Groin (Red Stick)

- Use swab for left and right axilla, rubbing on the skin 2-3 times. Then use the same swab for left and right groin, rubbing up and down the crease 2-3 times.
- place swab into liquid transport medium tube, stir for 30 seconds then squeeze against inside of tube, then dispose in clinical waste.
- Firmly screw cap back onto tube and ensure labelled correctly.



### ADDITIONAL SITE SWABS (If Applicable):

Use MWE- Transwab MW176S (purple top) with liquid transport medium tube for:

- **Abnormal skin areas (other than nose/throat/axilla/groin sites):** eczema, psoriasis, pressure ulcers, wounds >24 hours old. (1 swab per site)
- **Devices in situ >24 hours:** catheter sites, PEG, IV sites (if VIP score >1), tracheostomy (1 swab per site).