

- SOP No:** ATT 018
- SUBJECT:** Nasal or nasopharyngeal sampling in Ruminants using swabs
- POLICY:** This procedure may only be performed by, or under the supervision of operators skilled in the technique
- PRECAUTIONS:** Restraint of the animal is necessary for the procedure, for cattle this is ideally a crush with a headlock or in the case of smaller ruminants this may be achieved by manual restraint in the standing position.
- EQUIPMENT:** Viral or bacterial culturette,
or Cotton swabs on a 15 to 20 cm (approximate) stick (or similar collection equipment)
Nasopharyngeal swab or guarded culturette (or similar)
Viral and/or bacterial transport media
Halter
- PROCEDURE:**
- 1. Restraint:** The animal is restrained using methods appropriate for its size and demeanour. A halter may be used to control the head. The gross contamination of the nostril and external nares is removed.
 - 2. Culturette sampling:** The swab is inserted into the nostril to as deep a depth as possible. The tip of the swab is rubbed several times back and forth against the nasal mucosa. The swab is removed and the sample processed.
 - 3. Nasopharyngeal swab sampling:** The swab is inserted into the nostril to as deep a depth as possible. The tip of the swab is rubbed several times back and forth against the nasal mucosa. The swab is removed and the sample processed.
- Samples should be transferred to the appropriate sample containers and delivered to the laboratory as soon as possible.
- RECOMMENDATIONS:** Results of sample analysis will determine the recommendations.
- DATE APPROVED:** April 2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

- 1. Chapter 16. Clinical examination of the respiratory tract.** B.C. McGorum, P.M. Dixon, O.M Radostits, et al. In: *Veterinary Clinical Examination and Diagnosis.* O.M. Radostits, I.G. Joe Mayhew, Doreen M. Houston (editors). WB Saunders 2000. ISBN 0-7020-2476-7