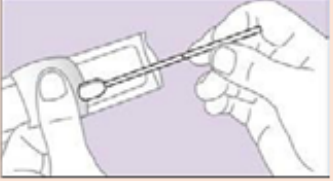
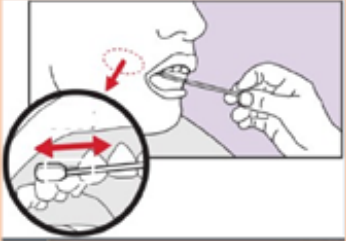
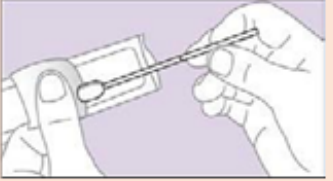
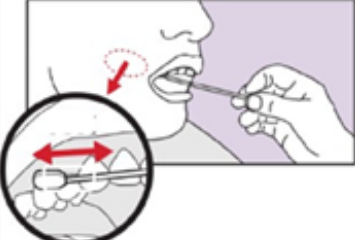
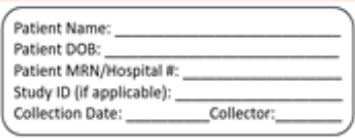



Buccal Cell Collection Instructions for Molecular Testing

Buccal cells line the inner cheek inside the mouth and are a good source of DNA. This testing requires **FOUR cheek brushes**. Self-collection using correct technique after receiving proper instructions is preferred, however, provider-collected is acceptable.

To reduce possible contaminants in the specimen, please **avoid eating, drinking, chewing, or brushing anything for at least 30 minutes** before beginning the collection. Read all instructions carefully and wash hands before proceeding.

Step	Instruction	Visual
1	Carefully remove one of the cheek brushes from the protective wrapper, holding it only by the stick. Note: Do not touch the end of the brush head.	
2	Open your mouth and rub the inside of the cheek with the brush slowly for 30 seconds. Thoroughly swab and twirl the brush over the entire surface of the cheek with steady even pressure . The impression of the swab should be visible from the outside of the patients cheek.	
3	Put the brush (head down) back into the protective wrapper.	
4	Repeat steps 1-3 with the remaining cheek brushes, going back and forth on opposite cheeks. A total of 4 cheek brushes should be collected. Note: All 4 brushes can be placed into one protective wrapper.	
5	Properly label the protective wrapper(s) with at least 2 patient identifiers and the collection date. Improperly labeled specimens will be rejected.	
6	Place the labeled protective wrapper(s) containing the 4 swabs into a clean plastic biohazard bag and seal the bag. Place the completed laboratory requisition into the outside pocket of the biohazard bag.	
7	Place the sealed biohazard bag of brushes into the FedEx envelope. Securely seal the envelope shut. Send to UF Path Labs using the pre-labeled FedEx envelope.	