



## HAIR PCR COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

### MATERIALS PROVIDED:

- 1 sterile swab
- 1 specimen bag
- 1 molecular transport tube
- 1 UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer, if shipping directly

### SPECIMEN COLLECTION

To ensure safety and validity of the sample, it is important to follow these instructions.

1. Don gloves. Pluck 10-15 hairs and place directly into the provided molecular transport tube.
2. **(Preferred/Optional)** Swab the affected hair follicles and place the swab into the molecular transport tube with the collected hair. Collection of hair and a swab of the affected site maximizes diagnostic yield.
3. Swirl the swab in the fluid 5 times and ensure that all material is submerged in transport fluid.
4. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and securely tighten the tube cap (with the swab remaining in the tube).
5. Label the transport tube with two patient identifiers.
6. Place the transport tube in the specimen bag.
7. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10-15 minutes before placing it in the mailing envelope or specimen bin.
8. If shipping directly, place all samples collected for the day into a provided UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.