

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

CATEGORY: Outbreak Management	SUBJECT: Obtaining a Throat Culture	SECTION: F POLICY: 10
DATE: July 12, 2022	Administrator's Signature: _____ <i>J. M.</i>	
REVISION DATES: December 2023	IPAC Lead's Signature: _____ <i>L. Coppola, RN.</i>	

OBTAINING A THROAT CULTURE

POLICY:

To determine the nature of an infection by collecting a throat culture as directed by the Medical Director.

PROCEDURE:

The Nurse will:

- 1) Explain the procedure to the resident.
- 2) Collect the following equipment: throat swab, adequate light source and sterile tongue depressor.
- 3) Provide privacy for the resident. Perform hand hygiene.
- 4) Ask the resident to sit in a comfortable position and instruct them to tilt their head back. Remove the swab from the container. Ask resident to open their mouth wide and depress the tongue with the depressor. Swab the involved tonsillar and posterior pharynx with the throat swab.
- 5) Return the swab to the container and properly label with the resident's name, date of birth, date and time collected.
- 6) The Ward Clerk will fill out the lab requisition.
- 7) Do not refrigerate the sample. Store the sample according to lab requirements in lab bag with ice pack until the swab is picked up by the courier.
- 8) Document the procedure and collection in the resident's progress notes.