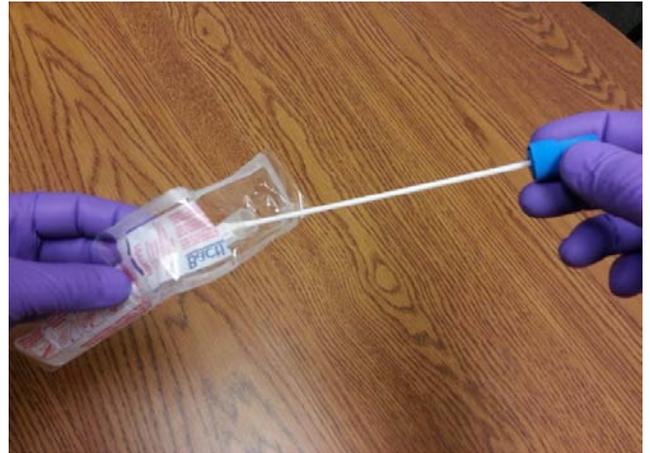


## **Culture Swab Procedure for Environmental Surface Sampling**

- *Assess the area prior to sample collection to determine appropriate collection devices*
- *Organize sampling tools away from sampling area*
- **READ FULL PROCEDURE PRIOR TO COLLECTION**
- *Wear at least 1 pair of gloves. Replace when contaminated or sampling new site*

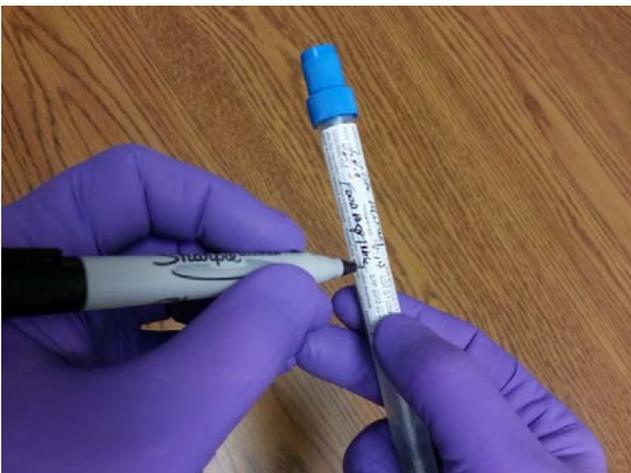
### **Environmental sampling tools:**

- Primary container- Culturette swabs
- Secondary Container- baggie



### **1) Prior to entry into sampling area, aseptically assemble culturette into 1-piece by:**

- peeling apart the culturette package
- uncapping the tube
- firmly inserting swab into tube



### **2) Label primary container with:**

- collector's name,
- sample #, time/date of sampling, and
- sample source.

*Repeat steps 1-2 for each additional swab.*



**3)** In the sampling area, collector removes culture swab from media tube and collects sample by gently rolling swab tip (using vertical and horizontal zigzag strokes across flat surfaces).



*Repeats steps 3-4 when collecting additional samples.*

**4)** Collector secures swab back into media tube.

**5)** Additional Instructions:

- Place primary container(s) into secondary container(s)
- If collection requires improvisation of methods, ALWAYS use aseptic technique and document additional steps taken to collect sample.
- Return to pre-sampling area to complete *Sample Collection Forms & Chain of Custody*.