19.1: Specimen Collection Introduction

Learning Objectives

• Accurately collect specimens for blood glucose monitoring, nasal swabs, and oropharyngeal swabs
• Modify procedure to reflect variations across the life span
• Maintain standard and transmission-based precautions
• Select appropriate equipment
• Explain procedure to patient
• Document actions and observations
• Recognize and report significant deviations from norms

This chapter will describe specimen collection for blood glucose monitoring, nasal swabs, oropharyngeal swabs, sputum, and stool.

Additional information regarding obtaining wound cultures can be found in "Wound Care," and information about obtaining urine cultures can be found in the “Facilitation of Elimination.”