

# Oral Cavity Soft Tissue Sampling

## SAMPLING PROCEDURE

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This protocol is intended for the collection of oral soft tissue samples. This protocol provides a simple guideline for the materials needed for sample collection, the procedure, and storage.

### MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Catch-All™ Sample Collection Swab
- 2 mL MOBIO Collection Tube containing 750 µL of MOBIO buffer
- Depressor (for throat specimen collection)
- Ziploc bag or cryobox
- Cooler with ice
- Latex gloves
- Scissors

### PROCEDURE

1. Wearing gloves, take a sterile Catch-All Sample Collection Swab and sample each site accordingly:
  - a. Tongue dorsum: Swab 1 cm<sup>2</sup> of the center of the tongue for 5 seconds.
  - b. Hard palate: Swab entire hard palate for 10 seconds.
  - c. Buccal mucosa: Swab the entire area of the left and right buccal mucosa for 10 seconds each. Take caution to avoid touching the teeth.
  - d. Keratinized gingiva: Swab the maxillary anterior attached gingiva for 10 seconds.
  - e. Palatine Tonsils: Swab left and right palatine tonsils for 5 seconds each, concentrating on fissures and pits.
  - f. Throat: It is suggested to obtain this sample last as it is the more difficult site due to gag reflex. Have subject open mouth and relax tongue. Insert depressor to the rear

of the tongue and depress entire tongue out of the way. Gently swab oropharynx for up to 5 seconds. Do not swab tonsils.

2. Immediately after swabbing, the end of the swab used for sampling should be cut off into an individual MOBIO collection tube containing 750  $\mu$ L of MOBIO buffer.
3. Each soft tissue site is sampled using a separate swab and the MOBIO tube containing the swab should be labeled by appropriate site.
4. Place the MOBIO tubes in a biohazard ziploc bag or cryobox, and place in the cooler on ice. Samples should be placed in  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  storage within 4 hours.

