

## SWAB AND TRANSPORT OF BED BUG DNA

- 1) Using a new, clean pair of gloves for each sample, open a single sterile swab and remove from transport tube.
  - a. Try to maintain the swab at arms distance to prevent contamination.
  - b. Always return swab to transport tube when not in use.
- 2) Firmly stroke swab tip back and forth across areas suspected of Bed Bugs.
  - a. Maximum efforts should be directed behind and under head boards, under the mattress and box springs, and floor areas directly under the edges of bed.
  - b. Any suspected droppings or shed exoskeltons should also be included. Do not be afraid to get too much dander on the swab.
  - c. Swab only dry areas. Be sure to avoid any liquids, grease, oil, or other organic chemicals. If the swab collects grease, oil, etc. replace in transport tube and use a new, clean swab to finish the job. Label and send both swabs.
- 3) Once all suspected areas have been swabbed, return swab into the transport tube.
- 4) Label tube appropriately and corresponding form.
- 5) Swab is now ready to send to laboratory as is, in the transport tube. It needs no further care as to temperature or handling. Protect from damage during transport.
- 6) Send via mail or overnight services as desired.

Testing is performed 6 days a week. If swabs are received in the laboratory by 10:30 am, results will be available by 4pm of the same day. Therefore turnaround time on overnight shipments is 24 hours.