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Flocked Swabs Beat Aspiration for Virus Recovery

BY BRUCE JANCIN

San Diego Nausea and dry procedural time than for nasopharyngeal to a nostril-to-nostril comparative study.

Each of the 106 study participants with suspected viral respiratory infection underwent flocked swabbing of one nostril and nasopharyngeal aspiration in the other.

Swabbing yielded 67 positive results for respiratory viruses compared to negative results with nasopharyngeal aspiration.

Respiratory virus was detected by immunoassay in 25 specimens obtained by flocked swabbing and in 21 nasopharyngeal aspirations. The average estimated yield of epithelial cells rates by laboratory personnel on a 1-4 scale was a score of 3.6 per flocked swab and 3.0 per nasal aspirate.

Disclosures: Dr. Sangwan’s study was funded in part by research grants from Coban Diagnostics, the developers of flocked swabs, and Diagnostic Hybrids.

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