
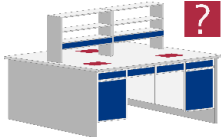



**1** 


- In a first step, respective Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needs to be put on, thereby following local and/or national guidelines.

**2** 

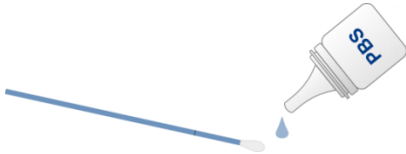
- Mark out a maximal area of 5 x 5 cm (2 x 2 ´) or use swab directly on (e.g. uneven) area.

**3** 

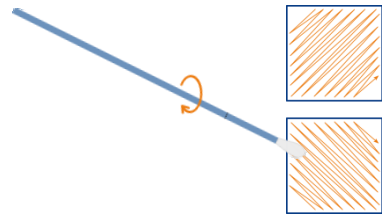
- Take out appropriate numbers of sample tubes and labels, label tubes appropriately.

**4** 


- Unpack swab (only unpack the single swab needed immediately).

**5** 


- Apply 2 – 3 drops of VIRSeek Sample Acquisition Solution from dropper bottle to head of swab.
- The swab needs to be completely soaked.

**6** 


- Swab the (premarked) area of max. 5 x 5 cm (2 x 2 ´).
- During surface sampling apply a respective pressure with the wet swab onto the surface.
- Move the swab in at least two different directions while rotating the swab stick.
- For **in-house analysis** of samples, proceed with **7**.
- For **external analysis** of samples, proceed with **8**.

**7** 

- Process swab for RNA extraction:
  - For sample preparation, pipet 750 µL of VIRSeek RNAExtractor Lysis buffer (including carrier molecule) into a 2 mL RNase-free tube.
  - Dip tip in the lysis buffer, press against tube wall to release liquid (repeat step 3 - 5 times).

**8** 

- Place swab into the designated sample tube and carefully break off the tip (caution, if broken too hard, loaded swab may snap out of the tube).
- Close sample tube with cap completely to avoid any spillage.

**9** 

- Place labelled tube into ziplock bag provided with the kit.
- Shipping at room temperature (25 °C max.) will suffice if shorter than 72 h.