### PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes a procedure for collection and storage of oral Buccal swabs.

### SCOPE

This procedure is intended for the general collection and storage of Buccal swabs. It does not cover shipping, DNA extraction or analysis of these specimens.

### AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. The GAPPS Director (or his/her designee) and Laboratory Manager have the authority to establish this procedure.
2. The GAPPS Laboratory and the QA monitors are responsible for the implementation of SOP documentation at participating sites.
3. The site’s Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of this procedure at their site and for ensuring that all appropriate personnel are trained and sign “Acknowledgement of Understanding” document for this SOP.

4. All health care providers and technicians who implement this SOP at study sites are responsible for reading and understanding this SOP prior to performing the procedures described.

5. All health care providers and technicians are expected to be trained and follow the procedures described in any of the GAPPS SOPs and have their signature on file at the collection site.

Supply Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Supplied:</th>
<th>Supplied in Kit:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1. Polyester swabs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Cryovial, 2 ml, GAPPS labeled</td>
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Safety

1. Required Training for processing
   a. Blood borne pathogens
   b. Standard laboratory practices

2. Risks
   a. Biofluid exposure

3. Required safety equipment
   b. Lab coats/scrubs
   c. Face shield/safety goggles
   d. Closed toed shoes
   e. Gloves

All health care providers and technicians are expected to be trained and follow universal precautions when handling biological or hazardous materials when performing the any procedures described in any of the GAPPS SOPs.

BUCCAL SWAB SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. Specimen donor should not have consumed any food or beverages 1 hour prior to providing an oral Buccal swab specimen.

2. The oral cavities of both cheeks are swabbed for 10 seconds (or the count of 10) with a single swab.

3. Without touching the head of the swab, snap off the swab head into an empty, 2 ml cryo-vial collection tube. **Do Not** use scissors or other devices to remove the head of the swab to avoid cross-contamination.

4. Air-dry swab in uncapped tube for 5-10 minutes. Cap the tube and label with a GAPPS bar-coded clinical label.

5. The specimen collection data is immediately recorded on lab requisition form.

SPECIMEN STORAGE

1. Within 2 hours of collection, buccal swab specimens must be stored at a minimum of -20°C for short term storage (< 30 days), but preferably at -80°C until shipped to the core repository.

2. Consult “Shipping SOP” when specimens are ready to be shipped.