SULLIVAN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

POLICY: COVID-19 Community/field testing **PURPOSE**: Provide guidance for community/field testing by SCPHS CHHA staff for COVID-19 **RESPONSIBLE PARTY**: This policy relates to all SCPHS CHHA field staff conducting field testing for COVID-19	Original Approval: 5/2020 Revised: 5/22 Reviewed:

Equipment
1. Gloves
2. Sterile flocked or spun polyester swab
3. Check expiration date of medium
4. Sterile collection tube with re-agent
5. specimen bag
6. label
7. Transport bag

Procedure
1. Follow standard precautions
   a. Wash hands
   b. Donn gloves
2. Perform self-test
   a. Using sterile flocked or spun polyester swab, insert the swab at least 1 cm (0.5 inch) inside each nostril and firmly sample the nasal membrane by rotating the swab and leaving in place for 10 to 15 seconds in each nostril. Sample both nostrils with the same swab.
   b. Immediately place swab into collection tube containing 2-3mL of medium and replace top
   c. Label tube with:
      i.   Name
      ii.   Date of birth
      iii. Date of collection

   d. Place in transport bag for transport to Garnet Catskills lab or preparation for transport to Wadsworth lab in Albany
      i.   Refrigerate all specimen types at 2-8°C after collection and up to 72 hours after collection. If a delay in testing or shipping is expected, store specimens at -70°C or below