Reconstituted pellets combined to form a pooled respiratory sample

**Figure 1. Specimen pooling strategy for each individual child**

**Day 1 individual specimens**
- GA: gastric aspirate
- NPA: nasopharyngeal aspirate
- IS: induced sputum

**Day 2 pooled specimen**
- GA
- NPA
- IS

NALC-NaOH digestion/decontamination and centrifugation
Reconstitution of pellets with 1.5 ml phosphate buffer

NALC-NaOH digestion/decontamination and centrifugation
Reconstitution of pellets with 0.5 ml phosphate buffer

GA: gastric aspirate; NPA: nasopharyngeal aspirate; IS: induced sputum; C: MGIT culture; X: Xpert MTB/RIF; S: smear