

Specimens should be forwarded on the same day of collection. If the specimen is collected after hours, store appropriately and forward to the laboratory the next business day.

Label each specimen with patient first and last name, DOB, source (if applicable) and the date collected.

Test Required	Specimen	Notes	Storage
Chlamydia/GC	Swab	Use a single Aptima® unisex swab (white label) for CTGC and/or Trichomonas. Site: cervix, urethra, eye (CTGC only)	Room temperature
And/or Trichomonas		Use a single Aptima® multitest swab (orange label) for CTGC and/or Trichomonas. Site: vagina, rectal, throat (CTGC only) <i>Specify if patient self- collected specimen.</i>	Room temperature
Nucleic Acid Testing (NAAT)	Urine	First void specimen for Chlamydia, GC and/or Trichomonas. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Mycoplasma genitalium NAAT	Swab	Use a single unisex swab (white label) for <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> . Site: Cervix, Urethra	Room Temperature
		Use a single Aptima® multitest swab (orange label) for <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> . Site: vagina. <i>Specify if patient self- collected specimen.</i>	
	Urine	First void specimen for <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> . <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Culture - Routine bacterial - Routine fungal/yeast	Swab	<i>Specify 'source' and diagnosis</i>	Room temperature
Culture - Anaerobic	Swab	Use single anaerobic swab/transport container <i>Specify 'source' and diagnosis</i>	Room temperature
Herpes Culture	Swab	Use Virus Culture Swab. <i>Requires a completed BCCDC requisition.</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Joint/Synovial Fluid Analysis	Fluid	Use LifeLabs Synovial/Joint Fluid Collection Kit. <i>Specify 'source' and diagnosis</i>	Room temperature
Pertussis Culture	Swab	Use Pertussis Culture Swab. <i>Requires special collection kit from BCCDC and a completed BCCDC requisition.</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Semen Analysis	Semen	<i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions.</i>	Room temperature
Sputum Culture	Sputum	First morning specimen preferred. Submit in empty sterile container. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate
Stool – <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> (Cdiff)	Stool	Submit in a Copan Fecal Swab. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Stool PCR (IDP)	Stool	Submit in a Copan Fecal Swab. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Stool Microscopy	Stool	Submit in SAF preservative. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Stool - FIT (Fecal Immunochemical Occult Blood Test)	Stool	<i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Urine Culture	Urine	Mid-stream urine collection in sterile container. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i>	Refrigerate immediately
		<i>Transfer to Boric Acid tube.</i>	Room temp or refrigerate
Urine - Pregnancy Test	Urine	First morning specimen or random specimen.	Refrigerate.
Urine – Routine Urinalysis	Urine	Fresh random urine collection. <i>A minimum amount of 12 mLs is required.</i>	Refrigerate immediately
Vagina - Initial presentation	Swab	Use single culturette	Room temperature
Vagina – Recurrent/Chronic	Swab	Use single culturette. Collect an additional Aptima® swab or urine for <i>Trichomonas Nucleic Acid Testing (NAAT)</i> . See <i>Chlamydia/GC</i> above for more information.	Room temperature
Vaginal-Rectal -Prenatal screen	Swab	Use culturette <i>Prenatal Group B Streptococcus screen only</i>	Refrigerate