

**Group B Streptococcus Screen
Collection Instructions
(Pregnancy Only)**

Purpose

These collection instructions are for the health care provider and allow for the identification of carriers of Group B streptococcus.

Specimen

Vaginal-rectal swab for Group B streptococcus screen at 35-37 weeks of gestation.

Collection Device

Copan swab in transport medium.



Collection Instructions

1. Insert the swab into the vaginal introitus.
2. Insert the same swab into rectum through the anal sphincter and rotate.

Storage/Transport

Store at room temperature

Rejection Criteria


Patient request requisition and sample must have at least 2 appropriate patient identifiers (name and date of birth or PHN).

Comments

- A vaginal swab alone is sub-optimal for the detection of Group B Streptococcus carriage. Both vaginal secretions and rectal material must be cultured.
- The swab should be visibly soiled after inserting the swab into the rectum.

References

1. Garcia LS, Isenberg HD, eds. Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook. 3rd ed., Edition, Washington DC, USA: ASM Press, 2010 Volume1.
2. Versalovic J, et al., Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 10th Edition, American Society for Microbiology, Washington DC, 2011.

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