


Microbiology and Miscellaneous Specimen Handling and Collection Instructions

| Specimen should be forwarded on the date of collection. | | | |
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| 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) for CTGC and/or Trichomonas. Site: cervix, urethra. Eye (CTGC only) | Room temperature |
| And/or Trichomonas | | Use a single Aptima® multitest swab (orange) for CTGC and/or Trichomonas. Site: vagina. Rectal, throat (CTGCOnly) <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 |
| Culture - Routine bacterial - Routine fungal/yeast | Swab | Submit 2 swabs if both bacterial and fungal/yeast culture requested <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>Clostridium difficile</i> (Cdiff) | Stool | Submit in empty sterile container. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i> | Refrigerate immediately |
| Stool culture | Stool | Submit in Cary Blair transport medium. <i>Send patient to laboratory for specific patient instructions</i> | Refrigerate immediately |
| Ova and Parasite (O&P) Stool for WBC | 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 | 3 Swabs | Use two culturettes, one each for smear and culture. Collect an additional Aptima® swab for <u>Trichomonas Nucleic Acid Testing (NAAT)</u> . See <u>Chlamydia/GC</u> above for more information. | Room temperature |
| Vaginal-anal -Prenatal screen | Swab | Use culturette <i>Prenatal Group B Streptococcus screen only</i> | Room temperature |

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| Approved by: Tec Quality Specialist - Micro and Molecular Diagnostics | | Current |  |
| Doc. Owner: LTA - Microsupport1 - VRL | | Ver: 3.0 | |
| Effective: 17-Feb-2019 | Doc.#31991 | | British Columbia |
| Uncontrolled When Printed | | Print date: 17-Feb-2019 | Page 1 of 1 |