**Purpose**

These collection instructions are for the health care provider to collect Vagina Initial or Chronic specimens.

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<th>Order</th>
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| Vaginitis (Initial)          | • Smear for Bacterial Vaginosis and yeast only                                      | Vaginal swab           | Copan (red-top) swab                      | 1. Remove tube cap and discard  
2. Insert the swab into the vagina 3-5 cm past the introitus and rotate gently for 10-30 seconds, touching the vaginal walls, to collect the specimen  
3. Place the swab into the tube and press firmly to close                                                                                   |
| Vaginitis (Chronic/Recurrent)| • Smear for Bacterial Vaginosis and yeast  
• Bacterial culture  
• Trichomonas testing by nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT)  
AND  
Vaginal/cervical swab or urine  
AND  
Aptima swab (vagina) OR  
Aptima swab (cervix) OR  
Urine                                                                                   | Vaginal swab            | Copan (red top) swab                      | See row above for collection of Copan (red-top) swab  
AND  
Refer to Trichomonas Collection Instructions document specific instructions for vaginal/cervical swabs and urine                                  |
Labeling
- Patient samples and requisitions should be labeled with at least 2 patient identifiers (name and date of birth or PHN). Patient samples may be rejected if inappropriately labeled.

Storage/Transport
- Swabs can be stored at room temperature after collection.
- Urine specimens can be stored at room temperature if being transported immediately but should be refrigerated if transportation time to the lab will be >24 hours.
- Package each patient’s specimens in a separate plastic bag (each bag should contain specimens for one patient only)

Comments
- Trichomonas testing is performed by nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT).
- Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Trichomonas nucleic acid amplification testing can be performed from a single APTIMA swab. Do not use COPAN (red top) swab for Trichomonas testing.