

Purpose

These collection instructions are for the health care provider to collect specimens using the Eswab collection device provided by LifeLabs.

Specimen

Deep wound and surgical specimens likely to contain significant anaerobic pathogens. Aspirates, tissue and biopsy specimens are the preferred specimen. Swabs are accepted but considered suboptimal.

Collection Device

Copan Eswab® (Liquid Amies Elution Swab)



Note: Although this kit supports the growth of both aerobic and anaerobic organisms, continue to submit **superficial wound cultures** on the Culturette swabs (Red Top) provided by LifeLabs.

Collection Instructions

Swab Specimens:

1. Open the package and remove the swab and the media tube.
2. Remove wound surface exudate by wiping with sterile saline or 70% alcohol.
3. Collect the specimen from the advancing margin of the lesion, not just the material and debris (pus) within the lesion.
4. Remove the cap from the transport tube.
5. Place the swab into the tube. Break the shaft at the scored line and discard the top portion.
6. Replace the cap and quickly tighten to minimize exposure to air.

Labelling Instructions

1. Label tube with specific anatomic site from which the sample was taken. Do not simply label as wound.
2. Label specimen and requisition with patient's full name and date of birth or PHN. Patient samples will be rejected if inappropriately labelled.
3. Indicate on the requisition specific anatomic site, anaerobic culture required, and date of collection.

Packaging Instructions

1. Store at room temperature and return to the laboratory as soon as possible. Delay may affect test results.