

# Mycoplasma Genitalium Infection Test

LifeLabs is pleased to offer *Mycoplasma genitalium* testing in British Columbia and Ontario

## Information for Healthcare Providers

### KEY INFORMATION

Infection with *Mycoplasma genitalium* (*M. genitalium*), a sexually-transmitted pathogen, can result in genital tract infections.<sup>1</sup>

#### What is *Mycoplasma genitalium* infection?

- *Mycoplasma genitalium* (*M. genitalium*) is a sexually-transmitted infection that affects the mucous epithelial cells of the urinary and genital tracts in humans.<sup>2</sup>
- Canadian studies estimate the prevalence of *M. genitalium* infection at 3-8%.<sup>3</sup>
- *M. genitalium* is associated with a variety of clinical conditions, including:
  - Persistent urethritis in the male sex<sup>4</sup>
  - Cervicitis or pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), pre-term birth, pregnancy loss, or infertility in the female sex<sup>4</sup>
- *M. genitalium* infections can be asymptomatic or symptomatic in all individuals. In symptomatic individuals of the male sex, urethritis is the most common symptom. In symptomatic individuals of the female sex, symptoms may include dysuria, vaginal discharge, or vaginal bleeding.<sup>3</sup>

### WHEN TO ORDER TESTING FOR *M. GENITALIUM* INFECTION

- Consider testing when chlamydia and gonorrhea have been ruled out as a cause of persistent or recurrent urethritis, cervicitis, or pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), following empiric treatment for gonorrhea and chlamydia.
- Routine screening for *M. genitalium* is not currently recommended.<sup>1</sup>

### WHAT IS THE METHOD USED FOR TESTING?

Nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) is used when testing for *M. genitalium* due to its sensitivity and convenience. Sample collection options include urine OR cervical, vaginal, urethral or meatal swabs.<sup>1</sup>

### BENEFITS OF CHOOSING LIFELABS FOR *MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM* TESTING

- As Canada's largest community lab, we offer high-quality testing through our state-of-the-art facilities and extensive courier network
- Walk-ins welcome, but appointments encouraged
- *Mycoplasma genitalium* testing can be requested with other microbiology tests

## HOW TO COLLECT SAMPLES AND ORDER THE TEST

LifeLabs offers two convenient sample collection options for your patients. Please note: there is no difference in the accuracy of the results between collection methods.

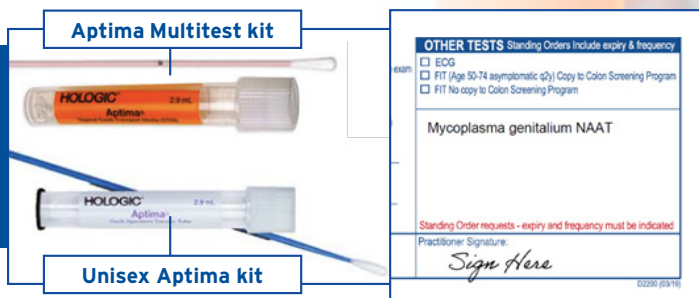
### Option 1 for sample collection: Urine collection at LifeLabs Patient Service Centre (PSC)

Please send your patient to a LifeLabs PSC with a signed requisition form with the test "Mycoplasma genitalium NAAT - urine" written in the "Other Tests" section. Our staff will collect payment and provide a container to the patient for sample collection when they arrive at a LifeLabs patient service centre with the signed requisition.

### Option 2 for sample collection: Swab (cervical, vaginal, urethral, or meatal) at your clinic

You can collect the sample at your clinic, provide your patient with a signed requisition with the test "Mycoplasma genitalium NAAT" written in the "Other Tests" section, and direct your patient to visit a LifeLabs PSC for payment and sample drop-off.

## SAMPLE COLLECTION TYPE



- Cervical, urethral and meatal swabs can be collected using the Unisex Aptima kit
- Vaginal swabs can be collected using the Aptima Multitest kit
- Self-collected specimens are also acceptable

Routine screening for *M. genitalium* is not currently recommended. Testing is only recommended when chlamydia and gonorrhoea have been ruled out.

If testing for chlamydia, gonorrhoea or trichomonas concurrently, an additional sample for *M. genitalium* testing must be collected and submitted.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Mycoplasma Genitalium Infection Test is a private pay test and not covered by Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) or Medical Services Plan (MSP).

## HOW TO ORDER TESTING SUPPLIES

Information on ordering supplies for the *M. genitalium* test may be found in the healthcare provider supplies portal.

## TEST TURNAROUND TIME

Results will be available within 2-7 days of being received in the laboratory.

 **Customer Information Center:**  
**1-877-849-3637** (Ontario)  
**1-800-431-7206** (British Columbia)

## References

1. Adapted from Canadian STI guidelines <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/sexual-health-sexually-transmitted-infections/canadian-guidelines/mycoplasma-genitalium.html>
2. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2011 Dec 15; 53(Suppl 3): S129-S142.
3. Adapted from <https://nccid.ca/debrief/mycoplasma-genitalium/>
4. *Infect Dis Obstet Gynecol.* 2016; 2016: 4513089.