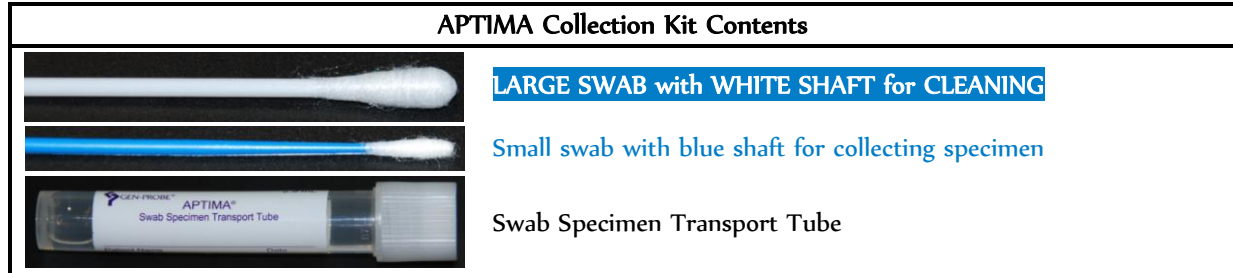






## APTIMA SWABS for Chlamydia / Gonorrhoea Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing

- Use APTIMA swabs ONLY for nucleic acid amplification testing – **NOT SUITABLE for CULTURE.**
- CT and GC nucleic acid amplification testing can be performed from a single APTIMA swab.
- **Label all swabs with patient first & last names, DOB or PHN, date & time of collection and site.**
- **Please package each patient's specimens in a separate plastic bag (each bag should contain specimens for one patient only).**
- Swabs can be stored and transported at room temperature or refrigerated.



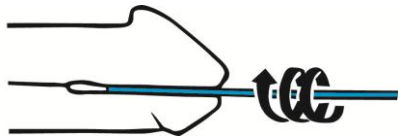


### Endocervical Swab Collection:

**If a sample for Pap testing is being collected at the same time, it is best to collect the CT / GC sample before the Pap sample.**

<p>1.</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use <b>LARGE SWAB with WHITE SHAFT</b> first to remove excess cervical mucous</li> <li>• Discard after cleaning</li> </ul>	<p>2.</p>  <p>Insert the <b>small swab with blue shaft</b> into the cervical canal and rotate to collect the sample for testing</p>	<p>3.</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove cap from swab transport tube</li> <li>• Place <b>blue shaft swab</b> into tube</li> <li>• Break shaft at scored line</li> </ul>	<p>4.</p>  <p>Replace cap on tube</p>
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### Urethral Swab Collection:

- The same unisex collection kit used for cervical specimens is also used for urethral specimens.
- **The patient should not have urinated for at least one hour before specimen collection.**
- **DISCARD the LARGE CLEANING SWAB with the WHITE SHAFT.**


<p>1.</p>  <p>Insert <b>small swab with blue shaft</b> 2–4 cm into the urethra to collect specimen</p>	<p>2.</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove cap from swab transport tube</li> <li>• Place <b>blue shaft swab</b> into tube</li> <li>• Break shaft at scored line</li> </ul>	<p>3.</p>  <p>Replace cap on tube</p>
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### Urine Collection:

- **Urine is an acceptable alternative specimen to either endocervical or urethral swabs.**
- **Collect the first 20–30 mL of voided urine (first part of stream – NOT a midstream) in a sterile urine collection container. The minimum acceptable volume is 20 mL, the maximum is 60 mL.**

### Swabs may be ordered as follows:

Lower Mainland	Complete supply order form and send it to the lab by courier <b>or</b> phone 604-412-4481
Vancouver Island	Complete supply order form and send it to the lab by courier <b>or</b> fax the order form to 250-727-0344
Kamloops	Phone 250-374-1644
All other locations	Please contact your local LifeLabs Patient Service Center

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