

Female Genital Specimen Collection



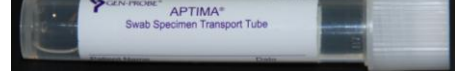
FEMALE Genital Specimen Collection


- The diagnostic accuracy of microbiology testing is only as good as the specimens it is performed on.
- It is important to collect sufficient material when requesting multiple tests.
- The following is a guide for selection of the proper collection device to use for different types of female genital specimen collection.
- Please package each patient's specimens in a separate plastic bag (each bag should contain specimens for one patient only).

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea


Endocervical Swab Collection:

- 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.
- 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.


APTIMA Collection Kit Contents	
	LARGE SWAB with WHITE SHAFT for CLEANING
	Small swab with blue shaft for collecting specimen
	Swab Specimen Transport Tube

1. 

- Use **LARGE SWAB with WHITE SHAFT** first to remove excess cervical mucus
- Discard after cleaning

2. 

Insert the **small swab with blue shaft** into the cervical canal and rotate to collect the sample for testing

3. 

- Remove cap from swab transport tube
- Place **blue shaft swab** into tube
- Break shaft at scored line

4. 

Replace cap on tube

Urine Specimen Collection:

1. Urine is an acceptable alternative specimen to an endocervical swab.
2. Collect the first 20–30 mL of voided urine (first part of stream – NOT a midstream).
3. For best results, urine specimens should reach the laboratory / Patient Service Center within 24 hours of collection; however, specimens will be accepted within 72 hours of collection if it was refrigerated.



Vaginitis (Initial or Recurrent / Chronic)



Trichomonas



Separate vaginal swab required

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