**Purpose**
These collection instructions are for the health care provider and allow for the identification of carriers of Group B streptococcus.

**Specimen**
Vaginal-rectal swab for Group B streptococcus screen at 35-37 weeks of gestation.

**Collection Device**
Copan swab in transport medium.

**Collection Instructions**
1. Insert the swab into the vaginal introitus.
2. Insert the same swab into rectum through the anal sphincter and rotate.

**Storage/Transport**
Store at room temperature

**Rejection Criteria**
Patient request requisition and sample must have at least 2 appropriate patient identifiers (name and date of birth or PHN).

**Comments**
- A vaginal swab alone is sub-optimal for the detection of Group B Streptococcus carriage.
- Both vaginal secretions and rectal material must be cultured.
- The swab should be visibly soiled after inserting the swab into the rectum.

**References**