










**Purpose**

These collection instructions are for the health care provider to collect Mycoplasma genitalium specimens.

Specimen Site	Collection Device	Collection Instructions	Comments
<p><b>Vagina</b></p>	<p>Small swab with pink shaft for collecting specimen</p>  <p>Swab Specimen Transport Tube</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Insert the pink swab into the vagina 3-5 cm past the introitus and rotate gently for 10-30 seconds, touching the vaginal walls, to collect the specimen</li> <li>2. Remove the cap from the transport tube</li> <li>3. Place the pink swab into the tube</li> <li>4. Break the shaft at the scored line and discard the top portion; recap the tube</li> </ol>	<p>Swab may be self-collected by patient .</p>
<p><b>Cervix</b></p>	<p>Large swab with white shaft for cleaning. Discard and do <b>not</b> submit to laboratory</p>  <p>Small swab with blue shaft for collecting specimen</p>  <p>Swab specimen Transport Tube</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use the white swab to remove excess cervical mucus, then discard</li> <li>2. Insert the blue swab into the cervical canal and rotate gently for 10-30 seconds to collect the specimen</li> <li>3. Remove the cap from the transport tube</li> <li>4. Place the blue swab into the tube</li> <li>5. Break the shaft at the scored line and discard the top portion; recap the tube</li> </ol>	<p>If a specimen for Pap testing is being collected at the same time, collect the NAAT specimen <u>before</u> the Pap specimen.</p>
<p><b>Urethra</b></p>	<p>Large swab with white shaft - DISCARD</p>  <p>Small swab with blue shaft for collecting specimen</p>  <p>Swab specimen Transport Tube</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Insert the blue swab 2-4 cm into the urethra , rotating gently, to collect the specimen</li> <li>2. Remove the cap from the transport tube</li> <li>3. Place the blue shaft swab into the tube</li> <li>4. Break shaft at the scored line and discard the top portion; recap the tube</li> </ol>	<p>Patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour before specimen collection</p>

Specimen Site	Collection Device	Collection Instructions	Comments
<b>Urine</b>	Orange top sterile container 	1. Collect the <u>first</u> 20-30 mL of voided urine (NOT midstream)	Patient should avoid urination for 1 hour before specimen collection  If more than 60mL is collected, wait 1 hour and recollect another urine specimen.

### Labeling

- Patient samples and requisitions should be labeled with at least 2 patient identifiers (name and date of birth or PHN). Patient samples may be rejected if inappropriately labeled.

### Storage/Transport

- Swabs can be stored at room temperature after collection.
- Urine specimens can be stored at room temperature if being transported immediately but should be refrigerated if transportation time to the lab will be >24 hours.
- Package each patient's specimens in a separate plastic bag (each bag should contain specimens for one patient only)

### Comments

- Mycoplasma genitalium testing is performed by nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT).
- Mycoplasma genitalium testing requires a separate swab specimen. Testing cannot be performed on the same swab specimen as Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Trichomonas nucleic acid amplification testing.
- Do not use COPAN (red top) swab for NAAT testing.
- Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Trichomonas and Mycoplasma nucleic acid amplification testing can be performed from a single urine specimen.