



## Genito-STD Pathogens Specimen Collection Instructions

**Materials Provided** To request additional supplies, call Customer Fulfillment at 940-383-2223.

- 2 sterile swabs
- 1 sterile urine collection cup
- 1 molecular transport tube
- Endocervical brush (upon request)
- Small urethral swab (upon request)
- 1 specimen bag
- 1 UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer

### Specimen Collection

To ensure safety and validity of the sample it is important to follow the instructions provided below.

### Females

#### Endocervical/Ectocervical Sample

1. Visualize cervix via speculum examination.
2. Wipe away excess mucus with sterile gauze.
3. Insert provided sterile 'endocervical brush' into endocervical canal.
4. Rotate the brush 3-5 times, ensuring adequate sampling of the endocervical and squamocolumnar junction areas.
5. Sample ectocervix and any vaginal lesions prior to removing brush from vaginal canal.
6. Place the brush into the molecular transport tube.
7. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap.

Additional lesions (cervical/vaginal/introital ulcers, etc...):

1. Sample lesion with the endocervical brush or sterile swab.
2. Place the brush or swab into the molecular transport tube.
3. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

Open ulcers:

1. Thoroughly swab the ulcer(s).
2. Place the swab into the molecular transport tube.
3. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

Vesicular lesions:

1. Carefully open the lesion with a sterile scalpel blade.
2. Collect fluid contents on a sterile swab
3. Swab the base and place all material in the collection tube.
4. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

#### Vaginal/Introital Sample

Vaginal fluid and/or vaginal/introital/urethral discharge/lesions:

1. Sample the lesion with sterile swabs.
2. Place all material (up to approximately 1/2 mL) in the molecular transport tube.
3. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

*Note:* If Group B Streptococcal infection is under clinical consideration, one of the provided swabs can be used for rectal sampling. This swab can be placed in same tube as the vaginal/introital sample. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

#### Endometrial/Parametrial Sample

Trans-cervical endometrial aspirate material:

1. Collect via an appropriate catheter device (not provided).
2. Place approximately 1/2 mL of aspirated material into the molecular transport tube.
3. Securely tighten the tube cap.

Ultrasound guided needle aspirates from pelvic inflammatory disease lesions:

1. Place approximately 1/2 mL of aspirated material into the molecular transport tube.
2. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten the tube cap.

#### Specimen Packaging for Transport

1. Label the transport tube with two patient identifiers.
2. Place the transport tube into the provided specimen bag.
3. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 – 15 minutes before placing it in the mailing envelope.
4. Place all samples collected for the day into a provided UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.

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# Males

## Non-Clean-Catch Urine

A first morning sample or sample collected longer than 1-2 hours since prior urination maximizes sensitivity of detecting urinary system pathogens.

### Patient Instructions

1. Wash hands thoroughly with warm water and soap.
2. Retract foreskin (as applicable), collect first ~10-25 mL urine into provided sterile urine cup.
3. Securely place the cap on the urine cup and give to the clinical technician.

### Specimen Preparation Instructions

1. Put on sterile gloves and choose one of the following options for specimen preparation.

#### Option 1: Using two sterile swabs

- a. Open the urine collection cup, molecular transport tube and two sterile swabs.
- d. Using a circular motion, completely saturate both swabs with 10-15 circular sweeps of the collection cup.
- e. Place the swabs in the transport tube.
- f. Snap off excess handles and securely tighten tube cap.

#### Option 2: Using a sterile plastic transfer pipette (not provided)

- a. Swirl the pipette 10-15 times to mix the sample.
- b. Transfer at least 1/2 mL of urine from the collection cup to the molecular transport tube.
- c. Securely tighten the cap of the transport tube.

## Urethra

1. Insert a small urethral swab 3-4 cm into the urethra.
2. Leave the swab in place for 5 seconds then slowly withdraw using a twirling motion. This ensures epithelial cells are well sampled.
3. Bend the swab wire in half.
4. Place the swab into the molecular transport tube.
5. Securely tighten the tube cap.

## Penile Lesions

### Ulcerated lesions:

1. Thoroughly swab the base of lesion.
2. Place the swab into the molecular transport tube.
3. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap.

### Vesicular lesions:

1. Carefully open the lesion with a sterile scalpel blade.
2. Collect fluid contents on a sterile swab.
3. Thoroughly swab the base.
4. Place all material in collection tube.
5. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap.

## Prostate

Trans-rectal prostate massage sample can be considered in possible chronic prostatitis. The patient should not have urinated for at least 1-2 hours prior to collection.

### Specimen Collection

1. Have patient retract foreskin (as applicable) with one hand, and hold open collection cup in place with opposite hand.
2. The clinician should massage the prostate while the patient collects any expressed prostatic fluid into the urine collection cup.
3. The patient should then collect approximately 10 mL urine in same collection cup.
4. Securely tighten the cap on the cup.

### Specimen Preparation

1. Put on sterile gloves and choose one of the following options for specimen preparation.

#### Option 1: Using two sterile swabs

- a. Open the urine collection cup, molecular transport tube and two sterile swabs.
- b. Using a circular motion, completely saturate both swabs with 10-15 circular sweeps of urine collection cup.
- c. Place the swabs in transport tube, snap off excess handles, and securely screw on top of transport tube.

#### Option 2: Using a sterile plastic transfer pipette (not provided)

- a. Swirl the pipette 10-15 times to mix the sample.
- b. Transfer approximately 1/2 mL of urine/prostatic fluid from the collection cup to the molecular transport tube.
- c. Securely tighten the cap of the transport tube.

## Specimen Packaging for Transport

1. Label the transport tube with two patient identifiers.
2. Place the transport tube into the provided specimen bag.
3. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 – 15 minutes before placing it in the mailing envelope.
4. Place all samples collected for the day into a provided UPS/ FedEx Lab Pak mailer. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.