



TECHNICAL PROCEDURE NO.: <u>SC056</u>	
SUBJECT:	Genital Specimen Collection for Microbiology / Molecular Testing
Effective Date:	<u>8/13/07</u>
Supersedes:	<u>6/1/02</u>
Medical Director:	<u>Vincent DeRisio, D.O.</u>
Site Medical Director (IRL):	_____
Written By:	<u>Lynn Wolff; revised by L. Portwood</u>
Distribution :	<u>Microbiology, IRL's, Reference Manual</u>
Annual Review:	_____
DATE REMOVED FROM SERVICE:	

All specimen material should be considered potentially hazardous and thereby handled according to practices of Universal Precautions.

Genital Specimens for Chlamydia and Neisseria gonorrhoeae Probes

Endocervical Specimens (Use Becton Dickinson (BD) ProbeTec™ ET female endocervical collection kit – pink package)

1. Remove excess mucous from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa using the cleaning swab (white, large, rayon tipped) provided in the specimen collection kit.
2. **DISCARD THE SWAB.**
3. Insert the second swab from the collection kit (small, polyurethane) into the endocervical canal.
4. Rotate the swab for 15 to 30 seconds in the endocervical canal to ensure adequate sampling.
5. Withdraw the swab carefully; avoid any contact with the vaginal mucosa.
6. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube. Immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube.
7. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line; use care to avoid splashing of the contents. Do not cut the swab shaft.
8. Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly.
9. Label with patient's name.

Male Urethral Specimens (Use Becton Dickinson (BD) ProbeTec™ Male Urethral collection kit – blue package))

1. Patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to sample collection.
2. Insert the swab (wire shaft) from the urethral collection kit 2 to 4 cm into the urethra.
3. Gently rotate the swab clockwise, while using sufficient pressure to ensure the swab comes into contact with all urethral surfaces. Allow the swab to remain inserted for 3 to 5 seconds.
4. Withdraw the swab carefully.
5. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube. Immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube.
6. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line; use care to avoid splashing of the contents. Do not cut the swab shaft.
10. Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly.
11. Label with patient's name.

Genital Specimens for Bacterial or Fungal Cultures

- For Neisseria gonorrhoeae culture (GCC) a charcoal swab is preferred.
- For genital cultures in which GC is not suspected, or if a Gram stain is requested, use a blue-capped gel swab.

Endocervical Specimens

1. Remove excess mucous from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa using a swab.
2. **DISCARD THE SWAB.**
3. Insert the culture swab into the endocervical canal.
4. Rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds in the endocervical canal to ensure adequate sampling.
5. Withdraw the swab carefully; avoid any contact with the vaginal mucosa.
6. Immediately place the swab into the culture transport tube.

Vaginal Specimens (Not suitable specimen type for Chlamydia)

1. Wipe away any excessive amount of secretion or discharge and discard.
2. Sample the secretions from the mucosal membrane of the vaginal vault with a sterile swab.
3. Place the swab(s) into the transport tube.

Male Urethral Specimens

1. Patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to sample collection.
2. Insert the swab 2 to 4 cm into the urethra using a rotating motion to facilitate insertion.
3. Once inserted, rotate the swab gently while using sufficient pressure to ensure the swab comes into contact with all urethral surfaces. Allow the swab to remain inserted for 2 to 3 seconds.
4. Withdraw the swab.
5. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube.

