

Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae DNA Specimen Collection Instructions

Endocervical swab: Use the APTIMA Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit (white label on Swab Specimen Transport Tube).



1. Remove excess mucus from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa using the large, white shaft cleaning swab. Discard this swab.
2. Insert the small blue shaft collection swab into the endocervical canal. Gently rotate the swab clockwise for 10 to 30 seconds.
3. Withdraw the swab carefully, avoiding any contact with the vaginal mucosa.
4. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the swab into the transport tube.
5. Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the score line and discard the top portion of the swab shaft, using care to avoid splashing of contents.
6. Recap the swab specimen transport tube tightly, label and ship to the lab.

Male urethral swab: Use the APTIMA Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit (white label on Swab Specimen Transport Tube).



1. The patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to sample collection.
2. Insert the small blue shaft collection swab (NOT the larger white shaft cleaning swab) 2-4 cm into the urethra. Gently rotate the swab clockwise for 2-3 seconds.
3. Withdraw the swab carefully.
4. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the swab into the transport tube.
5. Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the score line and discard the top portion of the swab shaft, using care to avoid splashing of contents.
6. Recap the swab specimen transport tube tightly, label and ship to the lab.

Rectal swab: Use the APTIMA Unisex Swab Specimen Collection kit (white label on Swab Specimen Transport Tube).



1. Insert the small, blue shaft collection swab (NOT the larger white shaft cleaning swab) approximately 3-5 cm into the rectum. Rotate swab against the rectal wall at least 3 times.
2. Withdraw the swab carefully. Swabs that are grossly contaminated with feces should be discarded and the collection repeated.
3. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the swab into the transport tube.
4. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line.
5. Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly, label and ship to the lab.

Throat swab: Use the Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection kit (white label on Swab Specimen Transport Tube).



1. Using a tongue depressor, insert the small, blue shaft collection swab (NOT the larger white shaft cleaning swab) and vigorously rub the tonsils and the posterior pharynx.
2. Carefully remove the swab without touching any area of the mouth.
3. Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the swab into the transport tube.
4. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line.
5. Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly, label and ship to the lab.

Vaginal swab: Use the APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit (orange label on Vaginal Swab Transport Media tube)



1. Partially peel open the swab package. Remove the swab. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. If the soft tip is touched, the swab is laid down, or the swab is dropped, use a new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.
2. Hold the swab, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft covering the score line. Do not hold the swab shaft below the score line.
3. Carefully insert the swab into the vagina about 2 inches (5 cm) past the introitus and gently rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure the swab touches the walls of the vagina so that moisture is absorbed by the swab and then withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
4. While holding the swab in the same hand, unscrew the cap from the tube. Do not spill the contents of the tube. If the contents of the tube are spilled, use a new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit
5. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so that the score line is at the top of the tube.
6. Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the score line and discard the top portion of the swab shaft, using care to avoid splashing of contents.
7. Recap the swab transport media tube tightly, label and ship to the lab.

First-void urine:

1. The patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to sample collection. Female patients should not cleanse the labial area prior to collection.
2. Instruct patient to provide 3 to 40 mL of the initial urine stream (NOT midstream) into a urine cup free of any preservatives. Collection of larger volumes of urine may result in rRNA target dilution that may reduce test sensitivity.
3. Recap the urine cup tightly and label the tube.
4. Refrigerate urine until delivered to the laboratory.