



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Streptococcus Culture

SPECIMEN STORAGE & TRANSPORT

Temperature: Room temperature (15 °C – 25 °C / 59 °F – 77 °F)

Maximum Holding Time: 24 hours (time from collection to test set-up in laboratory)

Exceptions: for any exceptions to collection, storage, or transport conditions; please call lab first to discuss.

KIT STORAGE

Temperature: Room temperature (15 °C – 25 °C / 59 °F – 77 °F)

Expiration: Kit must be used prior to expiration date listed on kit label

ACCEPTABLE SPECIMEN TYPES

THROAT: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium

PERIANAL or RECTAL: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium

VAGINAL: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium



AMIES Transport Medium and Swab

TEST ORDER OPTIONS FOR THIS KIT

2015: *Streptococcus* Culture

REJECTION CRITERIA

- Holding time greater than 24 hours
- Specimen in medium other than AMIES Transport Medium
- Specimen container not labeled
- Specimen container not sealed properly

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. THROAT
 - a. Depress tongue with a tongue depressor.
 - b. Sample the posterior pharynx, tonsils, and inflamed areas with a sterile swab.
 - c. Since many streptococcal species lose viability quickly, place swabs in an appropriate moist transport medium.
2. PERIANAL (less sensitive than rectal swab)
 - a. Carefully insert both swab tips no more than 1 cm into the anal opening before the anal sphincter and rotate gently.
 - b. Allow swab to remain for 10-30 seconds for absorption of organisms onto the swab.
 - c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM.
3. RECTAL
 - a. Insert sterile swab approximately 1-1.5 inches in the anal canal (through the anal sphincter). Move swab from side to side in the anal canal to sample crypts.
 - b. Allow swab to remain for 10-30 seconds for absorption of organisms onto the swab.
 - c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM.
4. VAGINAL

SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Neisseria gonorrhoeae Culture

- a. Carefully insert the swab 2 cm into the lower vagina (vaginal introitus).
- b. Move swab from side to side, or rotate the swab at the collection site, allowing 10 to 30 seconds for absorption of organisms by the swab.
- c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM.