

FACT SHEET

Trichomonas Amplification

Test 2850

Test Description:

Trichomoniasis is a common sexually transmitted disease caused by *Trichomonas vaginalis*, a parasitic protozoa. Although not a reportable disease, it is estimated that over 7 million new cases occur annually in the US. Infections in women cause vaginitis, urethritis, and cervicitis. Discharge and small hemorrhagic lesions may be present in the genitourinary tract. Complications can include premature labor, low-birth-weight offspring, premature rupture of membranes, and post-abortion or post-hysterectomy infection. An association with pelvic inflammatory disease, tubal infertility, and cervical cancer with previous episodes of trichomoniasis has been reported. Symptomatic women with trichomoniasis usually complain of vaginal discharge, vulvovaginal soreness, and/or irritation. Dysuria is also common. However, it has been estimated that 10 to 50% of *T. vaginalis* infections in women are asymptomatic, and in men the proportion may even be higher.

T. vaginalis may also be detected using “wet-mount” preparation by mixing vaginal secretions with saline on a slide and examining the slide under a microscope. However, the wet-mount method is only 35% to 80% sensitive compared with culture (7). The sensitivity of the wet-mount method is highly dependent on the experience of the microscopist as well as the time of specimen transport to the laboratory.

The APTIMA *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay is a nucleic acid test that utilizes Target Capture, Transcription-Mediated Amplification (TMA), and Hybridization Protection Assay (HPA) technologies.

Sensitivity: 93.7-100% in symptomatic patients, 73.1-100% for asymptomatic patients.

Specificity : 94.0-100% dependent on study

Specimen:

APTIMA Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens , APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit or APTIMA Urine Specimen Collection Kit.

After collection, transport and store the swab in the swab specimen transport tube at 2°C to 30°C until tested. Assay specimens within 60 days of collection. If longer storage is needed, freeze the specimen transport tube at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for up to 24 months.

CPT Code: 87661



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