



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY Public Health Laboratory

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

APTIMA COMBO 2 COLLECTION KITS

THESE COLLECTION KITS ARE APPROVED FOR THE DETECTION OF CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS AND NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE FROM FEMALE URINE AND ENDOCERVICAL, MALE URINE AND URETHRAL SPECIMENS, RECTAL SWABS, PHARYNGEAL SWABS AND VAGINAL SWABS

URINE SPECIMENS

Patient Instructions:

1. Do not urinate for at least one hour prior to collection.
2. Uncap collection cup and collect about 20 to 30 ml of the first urine stream into the collection cup.
3. Re-cap collection cup and give the collection cup to the Clinic Staff

Clinic Staff Instructions:

1. Remove the cap and transfer 2 ml of urine from the collection cup into the Urine Specimen Transport Tube.
 - a) **USE THE DISPOSABLE PIPETTE PROVIDED.** This pipette is for a onetime use only.
 - b) Re-cap the Urine Specimen Transport Tube tightly.
 - c) Fluid level **must** be in **between** the black lines of the "Fill Area."
2. Urine Specimens **must** be transferred into the Urine Specimen Transport Tube within 24 hours of collection, we find within 2 hours to be optimal, and should be maintained at 2°C to 30°C.
3. Label the specimen and send to the SLO Public Health Laboratory. Specimen must be received and tested within 30 days of collection.

Fill Area	
APTIMA® Combo 2 Assay Urine Specimen Transport Tube	
Patient Name	Date
Patient ID#	LOT
Gen-Probe Incorporated San Diego, CA 92121 LB0458 Rev. A	112046 310CT02

CERVICAL SWAB SPECIMENS

1. Remove excess mucus from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa using cleaning swab provided in the cervical collection kit (white shaft swab in package with red printing) and discard the swab appropriately.
2. Insert the specimen collection swab from the collection kit (blue shaft swab in package with green printing) into the endocervical canal.
3. Rotate the swab for 10-30 seconds in the endocervical canal to ensure adequate sampling.
4. Withdraw the swab carefully; avoid any contact with the vaginal mucosa.
5. Remove cap from swab specimen transport tube and immediately place specimen collection swab into the specimen transport tube.
6. Break off swab shaft at scoreline, avoid splashing contents, and re-cap the tube tightly.
7. Label specimen and store at 2°C and 30°C until tested. Specimens must be received and tested by SLOPHL within 60 days of collection.

URETHRAL SWAB SPECIMENS

1. The patient should not have urinated for at least one hour prior to sample collection.
2. Collect the urethral exudate or insert the swab (blue shaft in package with green printing) 2-4 cm into the urethra using a rotating motion to facilitate insertion.
3. Once inserted, rotate the swab gently clockwise using sufficient pressure to ensure the swab comes in contact with all urethral surfaces. Allow the swab to remain inserted for 2-3 seconds.

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4. Withdraw the swab carefully.
5. Remove cap from swab specimen transport tube and immediately place specimen collection swab into specimen transport tube.
6. Break off shaft at scoreline, avoid splashing contents, and re-cap the tube tightly.
7. Label specimen and store at 2°C and 30°C until tested. Specimens must be received and tested by SLOPHL within 60 days.

RECTAL SWAB SPECIMENS

1. Using the Aptima Unisex swab, insert the swab tip approximately 3-5 cm into the rectum and rotate against the rectal wall several times (at least 3 times).
2. Swabs that are grossly contaminated with feces should be discarded and the collection repeated.
3. Insert swabs completely into the transport tube.
4. Label the transport tube and store at 2°C and 30°C until tested. Specimens must be received and tested within 60 days of collection.

PHARYNGEAL SWAB SPECIMENS

1. Using the Aptima Unisex swab, prepare by assembling materials: tongue depressor and proper vial or tube & swab transport.
2. Peel open the package for a Aptima Unisex swab, being careful not to touch the swab.
3. Have patient tilt head back, breathe deeply, open mouth wide and say "Ah". This serves to lift the uvula and aids in reducing the gag reflex.
4. Use tongue depressor to gently depress the tongue and look for areas of inflammation (redness) and exudate (pus).
5. Pull the swabs out of the package.
6. Guide the swabs over the tongue into the posterior pharynx (back of throat). Every effort should be made to avoid touching the swabs to the tongue, teeth, roof of the mouth or the inside of the cheeks.
7. Carefully but firmly rub the swabs over:
Several areas of pus or inflammation
Over the tonsils (or tonsillar crypts if tonsils have been removed)
Posterior pharynx
8. Remove swabs carefully from the mouth, again, avoid touching the swabs to the tongue, teeth, roof of the mouth or inside of the cheeks.
9. Insert swabs completely into the transport vial.
10. Label the transport tube and store at 2°C and 30°C until tested. Specimens must be received and tested by SLOPHL within 60 days of collection.

VAGINAL SWAB SPECIMENS

1. Partially peel open the swab package. 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. Remove the swab.
3. Hold the swab, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft.
4. Carefully insert the swab into the vagina about 2 inches 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.
5. Withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
6. 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.

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7. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so that the tip of the swab is visible below the tube label.
8. Carefully break the swab shaft at the scored line against the side of the tube and discard the top portion of the swab shaft. 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.
9. Tightly screw the cap onto the tube.
10. Label the transport tube and store at 2°C and 30°C until tested. Specimens must be received and tested by SLOPHL within 60 days of collection.

REMINDER: All specimens and requisition slips must be properly labeled with patient's first and last names, specimen type (urine, cervix, vaginal, rectal, pharyngeal), the test requested (Chlamydia Amplified Assay and Gonorrhea Amplified Assay) and date collected.

For additional information, and to reorder kits call the San Luis Obispo Public Health Laboratory at (805)781-5507