



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Neisseria gonorrhoeae Culture

SPECIMEN STORAGE & TRANSPORT

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

Maximum Holding Time: 48 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

ENDOCERVICAL: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium

URETHRAL: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium

OROPHARYNX (THROAT): Swab in AMIES Transport Medium

RECTAL: Swab in AMIES Transport Medium



AMIES Transport Medium and Swab

TEST ORDER OPTIONS FOR THIS KIT

2050: *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Culture

(in the event of probable antibiotic treatment failure)

REJECTION CRITERIA

- Holding time greater than 48 hours
- Refrigerated or cold temperature exposed Transport Medium
- Specimen in medium other than AMIES Transport Medium
- Specimen container not labeled
- Specimen container not sealed properly

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. ENDOCERVICAL (preferred site for specimens from females)
 - a. Specimen collection should be done with a sterile Dacron swab.
 - b. Rotate swab against the wall of the endocervical canal several times for 20-30 seconds and withdraw without touching the vaginal surface.
 - c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM
 - d. Speculum should be lubricated with water only.
2. URETHRAL (preferred site for men)
 - a. Delay obtaining specimen until 2 hours after patient has last voided.
 - b. Gently insert the urogenital swab into the urethra (women 1-2 cm, men 2-4 cm). Rotate the swab in one direction for at least one revolution for a minimum of 10 seconds.
 - c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM.
 - d. Alternatively, if a pus exudate can be expressed from the urethra to the tip of the penis, roll the swab in the exudate; place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM.

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3. OROPHARYNX (THROAT)
 - a. Depress tongue with a tongue depressor.
 - b. Swab the back of the throat and tonsillar area with a sterile swab.
 - c. Place the swab in a tube of AMIES TRANSPORT MEDIUM
4. 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.