

Specimen Collection

The proper specimen collection technique is very important in identifying pathogens from DNA. Medical Diagnostic Laboratories provides the **OneSwab**[®], **UroSwab**[®], and **NasoSwab**[®] specimen collection platforms for your convenience. For women, the sequence of Pap testing in relation to other cervical or vaginal specimens does not appear to influence Pap test results or their interpretation. Therefore, when other specimens are collected for gynecological testing, the Pap test can be obtained last.

Collecting samples with **OneSwab**[®]



- Step 1. Firmly, yet gently, sample the endocervical canal with the sterile swab rotating it 360° for 10 to 30 seconds to ensure adequate sampling. When sampling a crusted over lesion, moisten the swab in sterile saline prior to taking the sample.
- Step 2. Remove the swab and place into the vial. Break the shaft at molded break point and insert into transport medium.
- Step 3. To prevent leakage, be sure the swab fits into the vial prior to capping. Tightly cap the vial and label with a minimum of two patient identifiers such as name and date of birth. For packaging and shipping instructions, please refer to MDL's catalog of services.

Collecting samples for Vaginal Group B Strep (GBS) with **OneSwab**[®]

Obtaining specimens for the diagnosis of GBS infection from both the anorectum and the distal vagina increases the sensitivity by a considerable percentage (5% to 25%) over vaginal swabbing alone. Within the genital tract, the highest isolation rates are reported from introitus and the lowest from the cervix. Pregnancy does not influence colonization.

Collecting samples of loose stool specimens with **OneSwab**[®]



- Step 1. Utilize the swab provided to obtain a sample of loose stool and insert into the vial.
- Step 2. Remove the swab and place into the vial. Break the shaft at molded break point and insert into transport medium.
- Step 3. To prevent leakage, be sure the swab fits into the vial prior to capping. Tightly cap the vial and label with a minimum of two patient identifiers such as name and date of birth. For packaging and shipping instructions, please refer to MDL's catalog of services.

Collecting samples with **UroSwab**[®]



- Step 1. Urine collection should be at least one hour between voids.
- Step 2. Have the patient collect a urine sample in a urine container.
- Step 3. Dip the sponge into the urine container.
- Step 4. Place the sponge into the vial. To prevent leakage, tightly cap the vial. Label with a minimum of two patient identifiers such as name and date of birth. For packaging and shipping instructions, please refer to MDL's catalog of services.

Collecting samples with **NasoSwab**[®]



- Step 1. Aseptically remove the sterile swab from package, without touching the swab head.
- Step 2. Tilt the patient's head slightly upwards. Insert the brush end downwards into the nostril all the way to the guard. Be sure to direct the swab down towards the throat and not up towards the forehead. Rotate the swab 360°.
- Step 3. Aseptically remove cap from vial.
- Step 4. Break swab at molded break point and insert into transport medium.
- Step 5. To prevent leakage, be sure the swab fits into the vial prior to capping. Tightly cap the vial and label with a minimum of two patient identifiers such as name and date of birth. For packaging and shipping instructions, please refer to MDL's catalog of services.



Medical Diagnostic Laboratories

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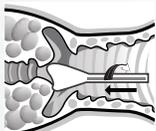
Medical Diagnostic Laboratories is proud to offer the convenience of liquid-based Cytology with molecular testing. For women, the sequence of Pap testing in relation to other cervical or vaginal specimens does not appear to influence Pap test results or their interpretation. Therefore, when other cultures or specimens are collected for gynecological testing, the Pap test can be obtained last.



Collecting samples with ThinPrep®

If desired, use lukewarm water to warm and lubricate the speculum. Water-soluble gel lubricant sparingly applied to the posterior blade of the speculum can be used if necessary.¹ Collect the specimen using one of the three protocols:

Plastic Spatula



Select contoured end of plastic spatula and rotate it 360 degrees around the entire exocervix while maintaining tight contact with exocervical surface.



Rinse the spatula as quickly as possible into the PreservCyt® Solution vial by swirling the spatula vigorously in the vial 10 times. Discard the spatula.

Endocervical Brush Device

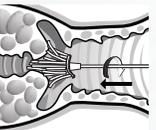


Obtain an adequate sampling from the endocervix using an endocervical brush device. Insert the brush into the cervix until only the bottom-most fibers are exposed. Slowly rotate 1/4 or 1/2 turn in one direction. DO NOT OVER-ROTATE.

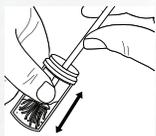


Rinse the brush as quickly as possible in the PreservCyt Solution by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing against the PreservCyt vial wall. Swirl the brush vigorously to further release material. Discard the brush.

Broom-like Device



Insert the central bristles of the broom into the endocervical canal deep enough to allow the shorter bristles to fully contact the ectocervix. Push gently, and rotate the broom in a clockwise direction five times.



Rinse the broom as quickly as possible into the PreservCyt® Solution vial by pushing the broom into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart. As a final step, swirl the broom vigorously to further release material. Discard the collection device.

1. Tighten the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
2. Label the vial with a minimum of two patient identifiers such as name and date of birth.
3. Provide patient information and medical history on the Pathology Test Requisition form.
4. Insert the labeled vial into foam insert of the mailer and close the mailer lid. Place the closed mailer into the biohazard bag.
5. Be sure to include a completed test requisition form for each specimen in the front pocket of the biohazard bag for transport to the laboratory.

