SWAB GUIDE



PATHOGENS	SITE	SWAB DESCRIPTION	FEATURES	INSTRUCTIONS	NOT SUITABLE FOR
Bacteria & Yeasts For Microscopy, Culture and Sensitivity	Any	Blue top	Regular Tip General Plastic Swab Cat. Code 682309	Use swab attached to blue lid to sample infected area for culture. Place swab into culture tube.	PCR
	Urethra	Orange top	Mini Tip Urethra Wire Swab Cat. Code 601362	Gently insert swab into lower end of urethra. Rotate swab then place into culture tube.	PCR
Viruses, Pertussis and Atypical Respiratory Bacteria by PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) Herpes Multiplex PCR (HSV 1 & 2, VZV), Influenza A&B, RSV, Other respiratory viruses, Adenovirus, Bordetella, Enterovirus, Legionella, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Syphilis	Any	Red top	Regular Tip Dry Flocked Cat. Code 684738	Collect as much material as possible. For vesicular lesions: break vesicle and scrape base of lesion with swab. If dry lesion: wet swab with sterile water or saline. Respiratory viruses: nasal swab is better than throat.	Culture
	Nasopharyngeal	Orange top	Mini Tip Flexible Dry Flocked Cat. Code 684739	Insert swab into nose and slide along floor of the nasal cavity approx the length of the patients index finger. Columnar epithelial cells (nasopharyngeal) required for <i>B. pertussis diagnosis</i> .	Culture
C.trachomatis, N. gonorrhoeae, M. genitalium & T. vaginalis PCR testing	Vaginal Oropharyngeal Ocular Anorectal Endocervical		COBAS PCR Media Dual Swab Kit PCR Media tube with Woven and Flocked Swab	For all sites except endocervical collect with woven swab and place into COBAS PCR media tube (break off at scoreline). Discard flocked swab. For Endocervical sampling use the woven swab to remove mucus or debris and then discard. Collect endocervical sample with smaller flocked swab.	Culture
	Urine		Urine Jar (70ml)	Prior to sampling, the patient should not have urinated for at least one hour. Direct patient to provide first-catch urine (approximately 10-50ml of the initial urine stream) into a yellow top urine jar.	Culture (Mid stream urine required)

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