GEN-PROBE

COLLECTION SITE PROCEDURE GUIDE

APTIMA®

Swab Specimen Collection Guide

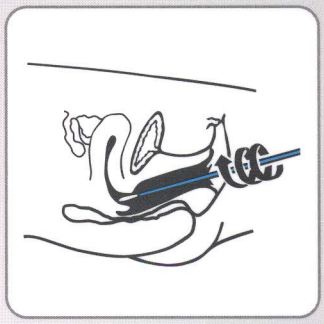
for *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC)

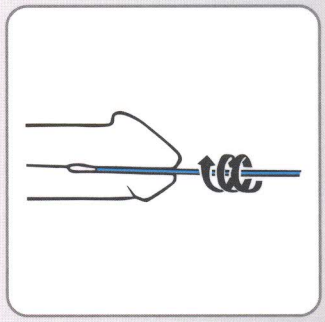
Collection for Endocervical Swab Specimens

1. Remove excess mucus from cervical os and surrounding mucosa using cleaning swab (white shaft swab in package with red printing). **Discard this swab.**
   A large-tipped cleaning swab (not provided) may be used to remove excess mucus.
2. Insert specimen collection swab (blue shaft swab in package with green printing) into endocervical canal.
3. Gently rotate swab clockwise for 10 to 30 seconds in endocervical canal to ensure adequate sampling.
4. Withdraw swab carefully; avoid any contact with vaginal mucosa.
5. Remove cap from swab specimen transport tube and immediately place specimen collection swab into specimen transport tube.
6. Carefully break swab shaft at scoreline; use care to avoid splashing contents.
7. Re-cap swab specimen transport tube tightly.

White Swab: cleaning then discard

Blue Swab: specimen collection

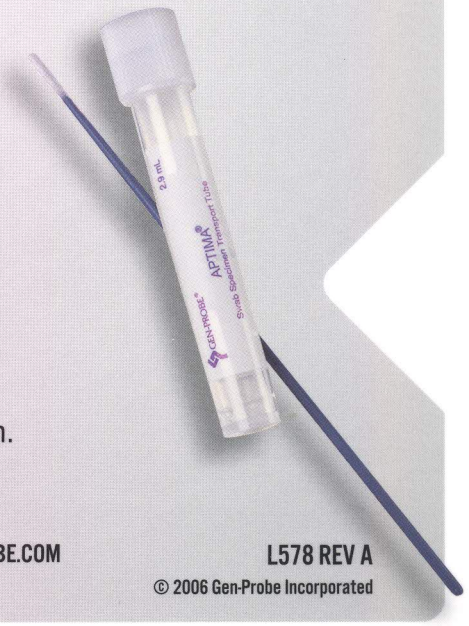




Collection for Male Urethral Swab Specimens

Patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to specimen collection.

1. Insert specimen collection swab (blue shaft swab in package with green printing) 2 to 4 cm into urethra.
2. Gently rotate swab clockwise for 2 to 3 seconds in urethra to ensure adequate sampling.
3. Withdraw swab carefully.
4. Remove cap from swab specimen transport tube and immediately place specimen collection swab into specimen transport tube.
5. Carefully break swab shaft at scoreline; use care to avoid splashing contents.
6. Re-cap swab specimen transport tube tightly.



Specimen Transport and Storage

After collection, transport and store swab in swab specimen transport tube at 2°C to 30°C until tested. Specimens must be assayed with the APTIMA Assay for CT and/or GC within 60 days of collection. If longer storage is needed, freeze at -20°C to -70°C for up to 90 days after collection.

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