

The most accurate results come from the best specimens

One collection device does not fit all tests

Laboratory tests contribute vital information about a patient's health. The accuracy of test results is dependent on the integrity of specimens. Adequate patient preparation, specimen collection and specimen handling are essential prerequisites for accurate test results.

Through today's laboratory technologies, there are a variety of sample types that can be used for testing and offer both patient and clinician convenience. While it is technically possible to use many of these sample types to test in the laboratory, some of these specimens may not produce the most accurate results.

Specimen selection based on test ordered

It is important to note several tests require unique sample collection devices that should not be combined into one device to assure quality results. Specimens should be collected using the manufacturer's kit in accordance with the kit's collection and handling instructions.



Liquid-based cytology specimens (Screening)

Liquid-based cytology collection devices are used for endocervical sampling for cytology tests and certain molecular tests, such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, HPV and trichomoniasis, that are common for screening certain asymptomatic women.¹⁻³ These collection devices are not designed (or acceptable) for collecting and transporting specimens for tests that require vaginal samples.



Vaginal swab specimens (Diagnostic)

The APTIMA® vaginal swab is used for tests that require vaginal sampling (e.g., bacterial vaginosis). APTIMA® vaginal swabs are also used to perform high-quality NAA molecular tests for chlamydia, gonorrhea, trichomoniasis, herpes simplex virus, bacterial vaginosis and mycoplasma.

NuSwab® Portfolio and Acceptable Specimens

Specimen Container		APTIMA® vaginal swab	APTIMA® unisex swab		APTIMA® urine	Pap vial	
Specimen Source		Vaginal	Vaginal	Endocervical	Urethral	Urine	Cervical
Test Name	Test No.						
NuSwab VG	180039	●	●				
NuSwab VG+	180021	●*	●*				
Bacterial vaginosis	180060	●	●				
<i>C albicans and C glabrata</i>	180055	●	●				
<i>Candida</i> Six-species Profile	180010	●	●				
Genital <i>Mycoplasma</i> Profile (Swab)	180089	●	●	●	●		
Genital <i>Mycoplasma</i> Profile (Urine)	180040					● ●	
<i>Chlamydia/Gonorrhea</i>	183194	●*	●*	●*	●	● ●	●
<i>Trichomonas</i>	188052	●	●	●	●	● ●	●
HSV Types 1 and 2	188056	●†	●†	●	●†		●
Symptomatic		●	●	●	●	●	
Asymptomatic							●

● Acceptable for people assigned female at birth ● Acceptable for people assigned male at birth
 † Sample of lesions also acceptable * For *Chlamydia/Gonorrhea* test, APTIMA® swab is optimal



Acceptable specimens for other women’s health-related tests

- **Cystic fibrosis carrier screening genetic test:** Blood or buccal swab
- ***Treponema pallidum*/Syphilis:** Blood
- **Group B Strep:** Vaginal/rectal specimen collected with a bacterial transport swab (screening according to CDC guidelines⁴)
- **Bacterial Vaginosis:** Requires a vaginal sample. Endocervical specimens from a Pap vial are not acceptable specimens or collection devices

Note: A single collection device is not appropriate for processing a combination of tests that fall into multiple categories, such as genetic, bacterial and molecular infectious disease.

References

1. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Screening for Cervical Cancer. ACOG Practice Bulletin. No. 131. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2012 Nov; 120(5):1222-1238.
2. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Primary and Preventive Care: Periodic Assessments. ACOG Committee Opinion. No 452. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2009 Dec;114(6):1444-1451.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommendations and Reports: Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines. *MMWR.* 2010;59(RR-12):1-114.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention of Perinatal Group B Streptococcal Disease. *MMWR.* 2010 Nov 19;(59)RR-10:1-33.

For more information about specimen collection, please refer to the Labcorp Directory of Services or the Test Menu at womenshealth.labcorp.com

