



## Chlamydia/Gonorrhea

### Collection Procedures

#### Acceptable Specimens

- Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens-Use APTIMA Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit
- Vaginal Swab Specimens- Use APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit
- PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap (Thin Prep) Specimens- Use APTIMA Specimen Transfer Kit (for use with gynecologic samples collected in PreservCyt Solution)
- Female and Male First-Catch Urine Specimens- Use APTIMA Urine Collection Kit

#### Specimen Collection

##### 1. Endocervical Swab Specimens

- Remove excess mucus from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa using the cleaning swab (white shaft swab in the package with red printing.) **Discard this swab.**  
**Note:** To remove excess mucus from the cervical os, a large-tipped swab (not provided) may be used.
- Insert the specimen collection swab (blue shaft swab in the package with the green printing) into the endocervical canal.
- Gently rotate the swab clockwise for 10 to 30 seconds in the endocervical canal to ensure adequate sampling.
- Withdraw the swab carefully; avoid any contact with the vaginal mucosa.
- Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube.
- Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the scoreline and discard the top portion of the swab shaft; use care to avoid splashing of contents.
- Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly.

##### 2. Male Urethral Swab Specimens

- The patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to sample collection.
- Insert the specimen collection swab (blue shaft swab in the package with the green printing) 2 to 4 cm into the urethra.
- Gently rotate the swab clockwise for 2 to 3 seconds in the urethra to ensure adequate sampling.
- Withdraw the swab carefully.
- Remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube.

- Carefully break the swab shaft against the side of the tube at the scoreline and discard the top portion of the swab shaft; use care to avoid splashing of contents.
- Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly.

### 3. Vaginal Swab Specimens

- Partially peel open the swab package. Remove the swab. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. If the soft tip is touched, the swab is laid down, or the swab is dropped, use a new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.
- Hold the swab, placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft covering the score line. Do not hold the swab shaft below the score line.
- Carefully insert the swab into the vagina about 2 inches (5 cm) past the introitus and gently rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure the swab touches the walls of the vagina so that moisture is absorbed by the swab and then withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
- While holding the swab in the same hand, unscrew the cap from the tube. Do not spill the contents of the tube. If the contents of the tube are spilled, use a new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.
- Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so that the score line is at the top of the tube.
- Carefully break the swab at the score line against the side of the tube.
- Immediately discard the top portion of the swab shaft.
- Tightly screw the cap onto the tube.

### 4. Female and Male First-Catch Urines

- The patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to specimen collection.
- Direct patient to provide a first-catch urine (approximately 20 to 30 mL of the initial urine stream) into a urine collection cup free of any preservatives. Collection of larger volumes of urine may result in rRNA target dilution that may reduce test sensitivity. Female patients should not cleanse the labial area prior to providing the specimen.