

Specimen Collection Kits and Specimen Collection Guide for Chlamydia (CT) and Gonorrhea (GC) Testing

FEMALES Genital Testing

- A single vaginal swab – all tests can be performed on one sample.
- Collect in the pink-shaft, orange label Aptima Vaginal Swab tube.



- See below under “Males Genital Testing” for collection of urine from females for CT/GC testing.

MALES Genital Testing

- First-void urine sample preferable (no more than 30 mL).
- Collect urine in the orange-topped sterile specimen container.



- Transfer 2mL of urine into the yellow label Aptima Urine specimen transport tube using a disposable pipette. The correct fluid volume is between the black fill lines on the urine specimen transport tube label.



Other Sample Types – endocervical, urethral, eyes, rectal, throat

- Collect in the UNISEX blue-shaft, white label Aptima Unisex Swab transport tube.
- Only one sample is required for CT/GC.
- For sites other than the ones stated above please contact the Microbiologist On Call through UAH locating at 780-407-8822.



Instructions for Obtaining Patient-Collected Aptima Vaginal Swab Specimens

NOTE: If you have any questions about this procedure, please ask your doctor, nurse or care-provider.

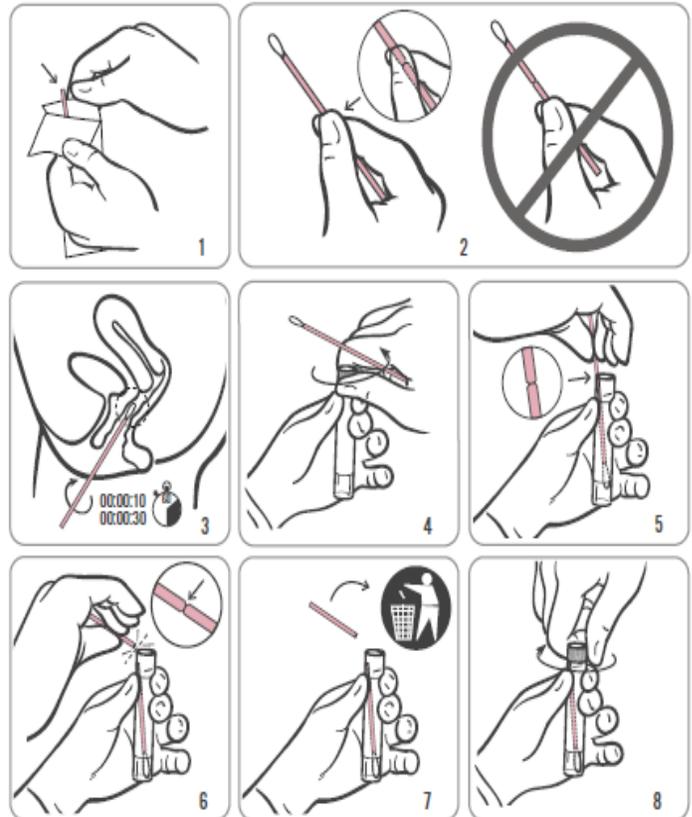
Wash your hands before starting.

In the privacy of the examination room or restroom, you will need to undress from the waist down. You will need to comfortably position yourself to maintain balance during the collection procedure.

Open kit package and set the tube aside before beginning instructions.

WARNING: If the contents of the tube are spilled on your skin, wash the affected area with soap and water. If the contents of the tube are splashed in your eyes, immediately flush your eyes with water. Notify your doctor, nurse or care-provider if irritation develops. If the contents of the tube are spilled, your test result may be invalidated. Do not take internally.

1. Partially peel open the swab package as shown in Diagram 1. 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, request a new Aptima Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.
2. Hold the swab in your hand as shown in Diagram 2, 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.
3. Carefully insert the swab into your vagina about 2 inches (5 cm) inside the opening of the vagina (as shown in Diagram 3) 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.
4. While holding the swab in the same hand, unscrew the cap from the tube as shown in Diagram 4.
5. Immediately place the swab into the transport tube so that the score line is at the top of the tube as shown in Diagram 5.
6. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line against the side of the tube as shown in Diagram 6.
7. Immediately discard the top portion of the swab shaft as shown in Diagram 7.
8. Tightly screw the cap onto the tube as shown in Diagram 8. Return the tube as instructed by your doctor, nurse or care-provider.



Collection for Male and Female Urine Specimens

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

1. Direct patient to provide first-catch urine (approximately 20 to 30 mL of initial urine stream) into urine collection cup free of any preservatives. Collection of larger volumes of urine may result in specimen dilution that may reduce test sensitivity. Female patients should not cleanse labial area prior to providing specimen.
2. Remove cap from urine specimen transport tube and transfer 2 mL of urine into urine specimen transport tube using disposable pipette provided. The correct volume of urine has been added when fluid level is between black fill lines on urine specimen transport tube label.
3. Re-cap urine specimen transport tube tightly. This is now known as the "processed urine specimen."



Specimen Transport and Storage

1. After collection, transport and store the processed urine specimens in the APTIMA urine specimen transport tube at 2°C to 30°C until tested. Processed urine specimens should be assayed with the APTIMA Assay for CT and/or GC within 30 days of collection. If longer storage is needed, freeze at -20°C to -70°C for up to 90 days after collection.
2. Urine samples that are still in the primary collection container must be transported to the lab at 2°C to 30°C. Transfer urine sample into APTIMA urine specimen transport tube within 24 hours of collection. Store at 2°C to 30°C and test within 30 days of collection.

