

The right swab for the right job

Questions? Call the Altru microbiology laboratory at 780-5131



BD ESwab Transport System (Eswab)¹:
 LAB503: Aerobic culture with Gram Stain²
 LAB233: Anaerobic culture²
 LAB885: Rapid Strep A by NAT³
 LAB252: Wet prep
 LAB251: KOH



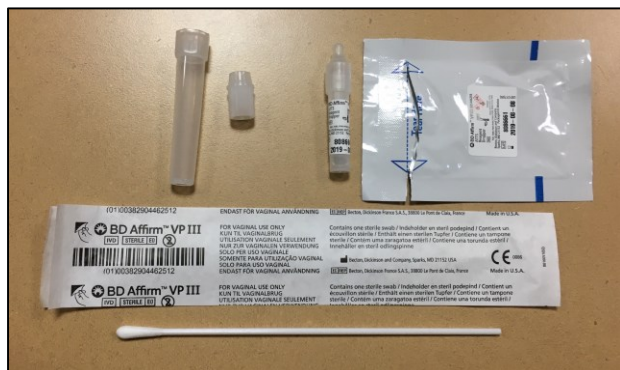
BBL Culture Swab (double swab, red cap):
 LAB885: Rapid Strep A by antigen test³
 LAB252: Wet prep
 LAB251: KOH
 LAB503: Aerobic culture with Gram Stain^{1,2}
 LAB234: MRSA nasal screen
 LAB5027: VRE rectal screen
 LAB502: Group B Strep screen, prenatal
 HERPV: Herpes simplex virus lesion PCR
 LVZV: Varicella zoster virus lesion PCR



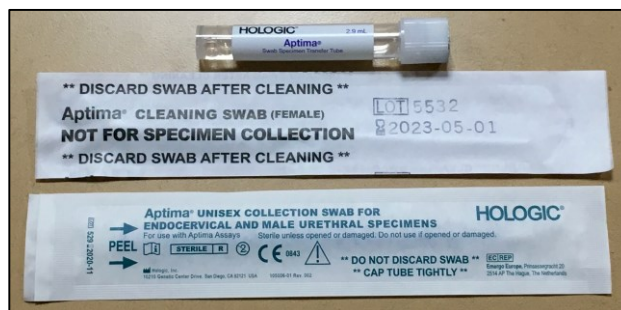
BD Universal Viral Transport Medium (3 ml) and FLOQSwab:
 LAB272: Influenza A/B
 LAB5072: Influenza A/B & RSV
 LAB5025: RSV DFA
 LAB5053: Respiratory pathogen panel (high-risk patients)
 LAB923: B. pertussis, PCR (done at NDDOH)



SP Brand CultureSwab (single swab, white cap):
 LAB252: Wet prep
 LAB251: KOH
 LAB897: Aerobic culture *without* Gram Stain
 LAB8003: NEOS (nasal smear for eosinophils)



BD Affirm VP III (vaginal swab and transport tube):
 LAB5022: Vaginitis screen by DNA Probe



Aptima swabs (chlamydia/gonorrhea, CT/GC)⁴:
 LAB5044: Neisseria gonorrhoeae by Nucleic Acid Test
 LAB5043: Chlamydia trachomatis by Nucleic Acid Test
 Unisex swab (white label): endocervical or urethral
 Multitest swab (orange label): vaginal, throat, rectal

Foot Notes:

- 1) ESwab is the recommended swab for bacterial culture (aerobic/anaerobic).
- 2) Whenever possible, send tissue or fluid instead of a swab for culture. Swabs should be avoided for fungal and AFB (Mycobacteria) cultures.
- 3) The swab submitted will determine which test is performed for Group A Strep. No backup culture for negative results by NAT.
- 4) Urine may also be tested for CT/GC; see specific collection instructions on altrulab.testcatalog.org