Culture Swabs- Guidelines

Revision 9/24/18

HSV- HSV PCR, and CVZV - Varicella Zoster, collection transport is been revised.

M4 RT Liquid Media in Conical tube is now required, changed from RED culturette.

Separate M4RT are required if both HSV and CVZV are ordered.

Collection kits will be distributed to offices. Please call the Laboratory with any questions 724-357-7160

1. **Red Cap Culture Swab** is to be used for the following:

   - CVIRRESP – Viral culture respiratory sources other than FLUAB
   - MRSA PCR anterior nares
   - Throat cultures and Strep screen cultures
   - Rapid Strep A - Throat cultures screening for Strep group A
   - Rapid Strep B - Vaginal /Rectal, and Vaginal screening for Strep group B
   - Urethrogenital cultures.
   - Think RED for Rapid

   ![CultureSwab- Liquid Stuart, Double Swab]

   **Storage= RT (Room temp)**  
   **Transport= RT within 24 hrs**

2. **Blue Cap Culture Swab** to be used for the following:

   - CWC - Wound specimen collection and transport for both aerobes and anaerobes.
   - WET or TRICH - ICR and OP WET PREPS
   - (Blue Cap)- cannot be used for the Rapid Strep A and B testing

   ![CultureSwab- For wound, and skin. Amies Gel w/o Charcoal, Double Swab]

   **Storage= RT (Room temp)**  
   **Transport= RT within 24 hrs**

3. **Green Cap Culture Swab** to be used for the following:

   - Urethral sampling, wound cultures as needed for ear, and eye cultures
   - Nasopharyngeal cultures

   ![CultureSwab- Liquid Stuart, Soft Aluminum Wire]

   **Storage= RT (Room temp)**  
   **Transport= RT within 24 hrs**
Memo: Culture Swabs - Guidelines

4. **Orange Culture swab**
   - BPS- Bordetella PCR- Nasopharyngeal swabs
     
     Amies Charcoal; Single Mini-Tip swab; Straight wire shaft

     | **Storage** | **Transport** |
     |------------|--------------|
     | RT (Room temp) | Refrig within 24hrs |

5. **M4 RT Liquid Media in Conical tube**
   - FLUAB (KIT)

     | **Storage** | **Transport** |
     |------------|--------------|
     | RT (Room temp) | Refrig within 24hrs |

   Must order HSV and CVZV separately (separate swab and M4 transport for each test)
   - HSV- HSV PCR- Genital, dermal, ocular, throat, respiratory
   - CVZV - Varicella Zoster - Genital, dermal

     | **Storage** | **Transport** |
     |------------|--------------|
     | RT (Room temp) | Refrig within 24hrs |

6. **M5 Liquid Media in Conical tube**
   - UREAPLASMA
   - MYCOPLASMA - Ureaplasma, mycoplasma cultures.

     | **Storage** | **Transport** |
     |------------|--------------|
     | Refrig | Refrig within 24hrs |

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7. **HPV**: Collection Devices Per source:
   - **HPV – Cervix/Vagina Only**

Thick Prep Pap Test Vial
Cervical/Vaginal Collection Device

8. **CT/NG Xpert- CHAMYDIA/ GC PCR –**
   - **CHLGCDNA** - Chlamydia / Neisseria Gonorrhoeae DNA PCR
     - **FEMALE**
       1. Endocervical and vaginal swabs

       **Storage** = RT (Room temp)
       **Transport** = RT within 24hrs

       **CT/NG Xpert Vial**

   2. **Urine- 20-50 ml** of first stream (not clean catch). **No void 1hr prior** to specimen.
      - Sterile Cup
      - Urine-
      - Transport = **Refrig** after collection

   - **MALE (Urine only)**
     1. **Urine- 20-50 ml** of first stream (not clean catch). **No void 1hr prior** to specimen.
        - Sterile Cup
        - Transport = **Refrig** after collection

9. **GEN-PROBE APTIMA - CHLAMYDIA- EYE SOURCE only**
   Order CHLPCREYE

   **Storage** = RT (Room temp)
   **Transport** = RT

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