# **SWAB GUIDE - HAWKES BAY**



## Label all specimens with TWO points of identification (e.g. full name, date of birth, NHI) Include relevant clinical details with ALL requests

## **Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs) for Sexually Transmitted Infections**

### Which swab/specimen

**Notes** 

## NAAT testing for Chlamydia and N. gonorrhoeae

**GEN-PROBE APTIMA Vaginal Swab** Specimen Collection Kit (pink swab and orange label tube)

Use for all sites e.g. vulvovaginal, eye, anal, throat



**GEN-PROBE APTIMA Urine Specimen** Collection Kit (yellow label tube)



\*\*\*\*\*Please note: other specimen types (eg collection Surepath BD Viper kits, specimens. urine not in the Aptima collection kit, orange floq swabs) cannot be tested and will be rejected.\*\*\*\*\*

- Female: a vulvovaginal swab (self- or clinician-collected) is the preferred specimen.
  - Break the swab at the score mark into the collection
  - Urine specimens on women have reduced sensitivity and should not routinely be submitted.
- Male: a first void urine (first 20mL of stream, preferably at least 1 hour after last voiding urine) is the preferred specimen.
  - Urine must be sent to the laboratory in the urine collection tube (yellow label).
  - Urine must be transferred to the collection tube within 24 hours of collection.
  - NAAT testing of urethral swabs is not routinely recommended.
- Anorectal and pharyngeal swabs should be collected for NAAT testing in all men who have sex with men or in others based on sexual history – orange label tube kit.
- Do not pierce the foil cap, cut swabs, or place more than one swab in the collection tube.
- All collection kits contain liquid transport medium. DO NOT apply this liquid (in the tube) to skin or mucous membranes or take internally.
- If the liquid is spilled or tipped out, use a fresh collection kit.
- Store at 2-30°C prior to transport to the laboratory.

## **Testing for Bacterial Infections**

## Which swab/specimen

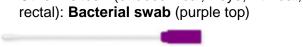
**Notes** 

#### Culture for N. gonorrhoeae

Urethral: Bacterial orange swab (orange top)



Other sites (endocervical, eye, throat,



- Symptomatic females: endocervical swab.
- Symptomatic males: urethral swab.
- Testing in asymptomatic patients or at extragenital sites: nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT).
- Indicate on the request form if symptomatic or if NAAT positive.
- If >2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C

Hawkes Bay September 2020

## **SWAB GUIDE - HAWKES BAY**



SVVAD GUIDE - HAVVKES BAY  Community Laboratories	
Testing for Bacterial Infections (contd)	
Which swab/specimen	Notes
Routine bacterial culture (eg throat swabs, wounds, eyes, vaginal swab for BV or candidiasis)	
Bacterial swab (purple top)	<ul> <li>If &gt;2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C Vaginal swabs at Room Temperature.</li> <li>Where available, tissue samples or aspirated pus are preferred to a swab.</li> </ul>
PCR for B. pertussis	
UTM collection kit	<ul> <li>Requires prior approval from the Medical Officer of Health or a Clinical Microbiologist.</li> <li>Collect a nasopharyngeal specimen using the swab provided.</li> <li>Break the swab into universal transport media (red top tube).</li> <li>If &gt;2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C.</li> </ul>
Testing for Viral Infections	
Which swab/specimen	Notes
PCR for herpes simplex viruses 1 and 2, varicella zoster virus, and adenovirus	
Black top rayon swab (dry)	<ul> <li>Please specify sites and include clinical details.</li> <li>If &gt;2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C.</li> </ul>
Yellow (dry) Swab colours may vary	Alternative swab.





 If >2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C.

## PCR for measles, mumps, or respiratory viruses (eg influenza, RSV)

Measles or respiratory virus PCR: nasopharyngeal swab collected using the UTM collection kit or submit nasopharyngeal aspirate

Mumps virus PCR: Oral swab, collected using the UTM collection kit



- For measles PCR, the request should also be accompanied by a measles reporting form, available from <a href="http://www.measles.co.nz/specimen-guidelines">http://www.measles.co.nz/specimen-guidelines</a>
- For mumps PCR, collect the oral swab from around Stenson's duct, where the parotid gland drains into the mouth.
  - For optimal sensitivity, this should be collected as early as possible in the illness.
- Break the swab provided into universal transport media (red top tube).
- If >2 hours before the specimen will reach the laboratory, refrigerate at 4°C.

## GEN-PROBE APTIMA specimens can be stored at 2-30°C.

All other specimens should be refrigerated at 4°C if there will be a delay of >2 hours before the specimen reaches the laboratory

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