

Microbiology: Specimen Collection & Transport Guide

General / Swabs

Additional information about testing and supplies is available in the Test Directory on clevelandcliniclabs.com

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Sterile Specimen Container	eSwab [®] Regular Swab	Universal Transport Medium, 3 mL: Regular Swab	Universal Transport Medium, 3 mL: Mini-tip Swab	BD Vacutainer™ Culture & Sensitivity Urine Transport Kit, (Sterile)	Cepheid Collection Device
Medline #DYND30385	Copan #480C	BD #402C	BD #220531	Cardinal #364953	This swab is used for:
This container is preferred for:	This swab is acceptable for:	This swab is required for:	This swab is required for:	This kit is preferred for:	• Routine, Prenatal Group B Strep PCR
 Abscess & Wound Culture WCUL AFB (Mycobacteria) AFC BK Virus Quantitation, Urine UBKQT Body Fluid Culture BFCUL Bronchoscopy Culture & Gram Stain BALCSM Catheter Tip Culture CTCUL Cystic Fibrosis Respiratory Culture CFRCUL Cytomegalovirus, Qualitative - Urine CMVQL Fungal Culture FCUL, FCULSM, ACFSC, FHSNSM Respiratory Culture RCULST Respiratory Pathogen Molecular Testing - Lower Respiratory CVFLRS, RPPCR, LEGPCR, PJPCR Tissue Culture TISCUL Use for sputum, tissue, fluid, and speci- mens that do not have an indicated spe- cific transport container. 	 Abscess & Wound Culture* WCUL Anaerobe Culture* ANACUL Cystic Fibrosis Respiratory Culture CFRCUL Ear Culture & Stain* EARCSM Eye Culture & Stain* EYECSM Group A Strep PCR GASPCR Group B Strep by PCR, Routine Prenatal Screening GBPCR S. aureus & MRSA Screen, Culture - Skin SANSAL Throat Culture THRCUL VRE Culture VRESC Yeast Screen FUNGSC *Fluid or tissue submitted in a sterile contain- er is preferred for eye, ear, fungal, and wound culture. Ear and eye specimens will be held for an ex- tended incubation to recover mold. eSwab is not accepted for AFC Culture, Fungal Culture, or Molecular Microbiology testing. 	 Cytomegalovirus DNA, Qualitative PCR, Non-Plasma - Saliva <i>CMVQL</i> Herpes Simplex & Varicella Zoster Virus, Molecular Detection* <i>HSVVZV</i> Mycoplasma, Ureaplasma Culture - Genital Specimens <i>MYPLAS</i> Non-Variola Orthopoxvirus (includes Mpox) <i>OPXPCR</i> This swab is acceptable for: COVID-19, Influenza, RSV - Nasal Swab CVFLRS Swabs taken for HSVVZV testing must be from an active lesion. 	 Bordetella pertussis Nucleic Acid Amplification BORAMP Expanded Respiratory Pathogen Panel - Nasopharyngeal Swab RPPCR This swab is preferred for: COVID-19, Influenza, RSV - Nasopharyngeal Swab CVFLRS 	 Urine Culture URCUL Yeast Screen FUNGSC Transfer ≥4 mL of the urine specimen from the cup to the gray tube using the transfer straw by following these instructions: Submerge tip of the transfer straw into the urine specimen. Push the gray top C&S preservative tube into the transfer straw. Hold in position until flow stops. Fill to the line on tube. Remove tube from straw. Shake tube vigorously to mix the sample. Transport at room temp. If less than 4 mL, transport urine using a sterile specimen container.	 GBPCR MRSA / S. aureus PCR SAPCR Cepheid Collection Devices are not acceptable for other Microbiology tests. eSwab is the primary (and preferred) collection device for bacteriology.