



CPAL

Central Pennsylvania Alliance Laboratory

Technical Bulletin

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Specimen Collection for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* PCR Testing Using the BD ProbeTEC Specimen Collection Kits

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Contact: Dr. Jeffrey Wisotzkey, 717-851-1422

Authors: Arthur E. Crist, Jr., PhD
Jeffrey D. Wisotzkey, PhD

Explanation:

Beginning September 26, 2005, specimen collection for endocervical specimens and male urethral specimens should be performed using the BD ProbeTEC Specimen Collection Kits. Specific kits are to be used depending on specimen type (endocervical or male urethral). The use of the BD ProbeTEC Specimen Collection Kits has been validated by CPAL for use in Roche Amplicor® CT/NG Test system.

This Technical Bulletin describes the proper collection procedure for each specimen type. Male and female urine specimens and specimens for the detection of *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* by culture are to be collected as before.

CPAL will continue to accept specimens collected using the current collection kit during this transition period. Please begin using the BD ProbeTec Specimen Collection Kits as soon as feasible.

MATERIALS:

1. BD ProbeTec ET Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae (CT/GC) Amplified DNA Assay Collection Kit for Endocervical Specimens
2. BD ProbeTec ET Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae (CT/GC) Amplified DNA Assay Collection Kit for Male Urethral Specimens
3. Urine specimens must be collected in a sterile, plastic, preservative-free, specimen collection cup.

SWAB SPECIMEN COLLECTION:

1. **Endocervical Swab Specimen Collection** using BD ProbeTec ET CT/GC Amplified DNA Assay Collection Kit for Endocervical Specimens
 - A. Remove the cleaning swab from packaging.
 - B. Using cleaning swab, remove excess mucus from the cervical os.
 - C. **Discard** the used cleaning swab.
 - D. Remove the collection swab from packaging.
 - E. Insert the collection swab into the cervical canal and rotate for 15-30 seconds.
 - F. Withdraw the swab carefully. Avoid contact with the vaginal mucosa.
 - G. Uncap the CT/GC Diluent tube.
 - H. Fully insert the collection swab into the CT/GC Diluent tube.
 - I. Break the shaft of the swab at the score mark. Use care to avoid splashing of contents.
 - J. **Tightly** recap the tube.
 - K. Label the tube with patient information and date/time collected.
 - L. Transport to laboratory.

2. **Male Urethral Swab Specimen Collection** using BD ProbeTec ET CT/GC Amplified DNA Assay Collection Kit for Male Urethral Specimens
 - A. Remove the swab from packaging.
 - B. Insert the swab 2-4 cm into the urethra and rotate for 3 -5 seconds.
 - C. Withdraw the swab.
 - D. Uncap the CT/GC Diluent tube.
 - E. Fully insert the swab into the CT/GC Diluent tube.
 - F. Break the shaft of the swab at the score mark. Use care to avoid splashing of contents.
 - G. **Tightly** recap the tube.
 - H. Label the tube with patient information and date/time collected.
 - I. Transport to laboratory.

Swab Storage and Transport:

After collection, the endocervical swabs and the male urethral swabs must be stored and transported to the laboratory and/or test site at 2-27°C within 4-6 days. Storage up to 4 days has been validated with clinical specimens; storage up to 6 days has been demonstrated with seeded specimens.

Urine Specimen Collection:

1. The patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hr. prior to specimen collection.
2. Collect specimen in a sterile, plastic, preservative-free specimen collection cup.
3. The patient should collect **the first** 15-20 mL of voided urine (the first part of the stream, **NOT** midstream).
4. Label with patient identification and date/time collected.

Urine Storage and Transport:

Store and transport the urine specimens to the lab at 2-8°C within 4-6 days of collection.

Reference: Package Insert: BD ProbeTEC™ ET *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Amplified DNA Assays