The BD Affirm (TM) VPIII Microbial Identification Test is a DNA probe test intended for use in the detection and identification of Candida species, Gardnerella vaginalis and Trichomonas vaginalis nucleic acid in vaginal fluid specimens from patients with symptoms of vaginitis/vaginosis. Traditional methods for the identification of these organisms include microscopic evaluation of Gram stained (Candida and G. vaginalis) and wet slide preparations (Trichomonas), antigen detection, and culture. The advantage of the Affirm (TM) assay is that all three organisms can be detected from a single specimen and detection is not subject to the one hour time limitation of the wet prep method for Trichomonas.

Specimen collection, however, is critical. Personnel should be well-trained to minimize the possibility of inadequate specimens. For specimen collection, only the Affirm(TM) VPIII Ambient Temperature Transport system should be used. Separate swabs should be used for other tests, e.g., culture or microscopic slide samples, if they are needed.

The Affirm(TM) VPIII assay is designed to detect clinically significant levels of the three pathogens, and has a sensitivity exceeding that of microscopic evaluation.

Reporting Time: The final report will be available within 48 hours. Testing is available Monday through Saturday.

Specimen Collection

Specimen requirements:
Collect: The test requires the use of a specific swab and container – the Ambient Temperature Transport System (ATTS).

Stability: The sample is stable for 72 hours at ambient temperature. Refrigerated and Frozen samples are unacceptable.