VAGPTH

CPT Code 87800

Infectious Disease

# Vaginal Pathogens DNA Direct Probe

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.

Client Services
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