

8/18/2026

To: All Greater Peoria Service Area Carle Health Facilities

From: Carle Health: Peoria Service Area Laboratories (West Region)

INFORM: Self Collect Not Acceptable – Molecular Vaginitis Panel (MVP)

Carle Health is standardizing Molecular Vaginitis Panel (MVP) specimen collection expectations across the system. Effective immediately, MVP specimens must be collected by a clinical staff member. **Patient self-collection will not be accepted.** This expectation aligns Greater Peoria practices with Carle Health System and supports a consistent approach to care delivery throughout Carle Health.

ACTION:

- **Effective Immediately, discontinue patient self-collection for Molecular Vaginitis Panel (MVP) testing. All MVP specimens must be collected by a nurse, provider, or other qualified clinical staff member in an appropriate clinic/healthcare setting. Patient self-collected specimens will be rejected by the laboratory.**
- Outpatient laboratory collection sites are not qualified to collect MVP specimens.
- Vendor MVP kits may include a self-collection guide as a standard item in the package. Remove and discard the guide before use. Its inclusion does not change Carle Health requirements, and patient self-collected MVP specimens will be rejected.

BACKGROUND:

Patient self-collection methods for MVP testing have not been validated or approved by Carle Health. This requirement standardizes MVP collection expectations across Carle Health. Direct collection by qualified clinical staff helps reduce collection variability and contamination risk, limits the potential for false-negative results caused by improper specimen collection, supports appropriate interpretation of molecular findings, and aligns with College of American Pathologists (CAP) quality standards for defined specimen collection and handling processes, patient safety, and reliable laboratory results.

Further information regarding the Molecular Vaginitis Panel can be found in our Laboratory Test Directory.

CLOSING:

Thank you for supporting consistent MVP specimen collection practices across Carle Health. For questions or clarification, please contact Customer Service or one of the laboratory contacts listed below.

If you have any questions, please contact us:

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