

A GUIDE TO SWABS

Not sure which swabs are used for what? No problem! Here's your answer:





RSV, Flu A/B NAAT, Respiratory Viral Plus PCR Universal transport media (1 mL), NP swab

RED CAP, pink liquid, 1 mL

- If ordering both tests (RSV & Flu), sample can be combined using the same 1mL transport media.
- Used for collection of Respiratory PCR (NP swab only) sample can be combined with RSV or Flu A/B orders.

HSV or VZV by PCR (and other – call lab) Universal transport media (3 mL)

RED CAP, pink liquid, 3 mL

- If ordering HSV and VZV by PCR from same body site only one specimen is necessary
- Ordering other viral/intracellular tests?
 Call the lab for further instructions.



Chlamydia/Gonorrhea, Endocervical or Vaginal

GeneXpert collection kit:

<u>PINK</u> CAP, clear liquid

- For female collection <u>only</u>. Do NOT collect on males.
- Urine (yellow top tube, clear liquid) for males and females are also acceptable.



Wound, Anaerobe, Genital cultures = Eswab

WHITE CAP, clear liquid

Note: Do not use swab for sterile body fluids and aspirates.



- 1. Rapid Group Strep A (throat)
- 2. Culture MRSA (NOT PCR)
- 3. Culture Throat
- 4. Culture Group B Strep (C GBS)
- 5. Wet Prep (Vaginal Pathogens)

NOT ACCEPTABLE for the following CULTURE types: Wound, Anaerobe, or Genital



CALL the Microbiology Lab x6350 for the following swabs:

- 1. MRSA by PCR
- 2. Staph. aureus complete by PCR
- 3. Group B Strep by PCR

Still not sure which swab to use?

Just call the Lab x7760! We are happy to answer your questions and can prevent you from having to recollect or from the specimen being rejected.