



IMPORTANT UPDATE!

TO: All NH Physicians, nurse practitioners, primary care nurses at STI clinics, midwives, and laboratory staff

FROM: Deanna Danskin, Microbiology Quality Resource Technologist

DATE: 19 July 2018

RE: Vaginal self-collections for STI testing and collection containers for STI testing (2 pages)

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Self-collected vaginal swabs are acceptable for STI testing when clinically appropriate. Clinicians should follow current best practices to ensure vaginal self-collections are administered in the appropriate clinical context for the following tests:

- Chlamydia and Gonorrhoeae NAAT (ORANGE APTIMA 'Multitest' kit)
- Trichomonas antigen, Smear for Bacterial Vaginosis and Yeast (PINK starswab)

Patient instructions are available from document source, document '[#10-200-6172 STI Self Sampling Information Sheet](#)'. Clinics may choose to either provide individual copies to each patient performing self-collection, or can post the instructions in the collection location (ie exam room). Providing clear collection instructions will ensure the best quality sample is collected.

Self-collected vaginal swabs and instructions must be provided by the ordering physician/NP/midwife/clinic and collected at the clinic at the time of patient visit. The laboratory will not provide STI swabs directly to patients. The appropriate requisition should accompany collected, labelled samples.

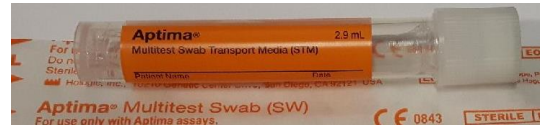
Please see page 2 for a summary of all collection swabs/kits/containers for STI testing

Please note which collection kit/swab is appropriate for each site, there have been several minor changes from the manufacturer. Clinicians should order vaginal self-collection instructions from document source (10-200-6172)

ORANGE APTIMA 'Multitest' kit:

Test: Chlamydia and Gonorrhoeae NAAT

Site: Vagina (vaginal self-collections are acceptable when clinically appropriate, see document source doc# [10-200-6172](#) for patient collection instructions), rectum, throat, eye



WHITE APTIMA 'unisex' kit:

Test: Chlamydia and Gonorrhoeae NAAT

Site: Endocervix, male urethra



PINK Starswab:

Test: Trichomonas antigen (females only), smear for Bacterial Vaginosis and Yeast (*can be collected on same swab*)

Site: Vagina (vaginal self-collections are acceptable when clinically appropriate, see document source doc# [10-200-6172](#)

for patient collection instructions).

Test: Culture for Gonorrhoeae

Site: Endocervix, male urethra, rectum, throat



ORANGE TOP sterile container:

Test: Chlamydia and Gonorrhoeae NAAT

Site: Urine collected in sterile orange top container. Laboratory staff (and trained primary care nursing staff at STI clinics*) will pipette into yellow APTIMA 'urine' collection kit at the lab (or STI clinic)



BLUE TOP Copan flogswab kit with UTM:

Test: Herpes Virus by PCR

Site: Genital lesion/vesicle

