



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF VAGINAL SPECIMENS FOR *N. gonorrhoeae* & *C. trachomatis* AMPLIFIED, NON-CULTURE,

Saginaw County Department of Public Health

www.saginawpublichealth.org

(Vaginal)

1. Specimens will be collected using a Gen-Probe Aptima Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit as follows:
 - a. Ensure that patients read and understand the patient collection instruction before providing them with a collection kit.
 - b. Partially peel open the swab package. **DO NOT TOUCH** the soft tip or lay the swab down. If the tip is touched or the swab is laid down, open a new kit to collect the specimen.
 - c. Remove the swab from the kit, holding it between your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the shaft covering the score line.
 - d. Carefully insert the swab into the vaginal about 2 inches past the introitus and gently rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure the swab touches the walls of the vagina so that moisture is absorbed by the swab.
 - e. Withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
2. Without laying the swab down, remove the cap from the swab specimen transport tube and immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube. **Do not discard the preservative in the tube.**
3. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score-line; use care to avoid splashing of contents. Re-cap the swab specimen transport tube tightly. Dispose the swab shaft following your institutions policy for contaminated medical waste.
4. Label swab's tube with the same name/unique identifier used on the requisition.
5. Record the name/unique identifier on the swab's tube for your records. You will use it to link the specimen to the patient.
6. Package and send the specimens to the laboratory as soon as possible to decrease the potential for equivocal results.
7. Include a **completed** test requisition(s) with the specimen.

Note: If the specimen container is received leaking, not properly labeled, test requisition not completed or the specimen label does not match the test requisition, or the specimen is greater than thirty days old when received, it will not be tested.