Aptima® vaginal swab device

Collection procedure for vaginal swab specimens

Wash your hands before you begin. If you have any questions about this procedure, please ask your healthcare provider before you start.

1. Open package
   Open the packaging with cotton tip down as shown. Remove swab by peeling open the packaging and holding only the shaft by placing your thumb and forefinger over the black line. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down on another surface.

   If the soft tip comes in contact with any other surface or is touched, request a new Aptima collection kit.

2. Collect specimen
   Carefully insert collection swab no more than 2 inches into the opening of your vagina and gently rotate for 10 to 30 seconds. The swab should touch the walls of your vagina and absorb moisture. Withdraw the swab without touching your fingers or any other skin.

3. Place swab in transport tube
   Unscrew the cap from the tube while swab is still in your hand. Be careful not to spill tube contents or drop the swab.

   Place swab end down into the transport tube so the black line is aligned with the top of the tube.

   Gently break swab shaft at the black line so that swab falls to the bottom of the tube.

4. Replace cap and return tube
   Discard top portion of collection swab. Tightly screw cap onto transport tube and return as instructed to your healthcare provider.

   If the tube contents are spilled, request a new Aptima collection kit.