

# Specimen Collection for STI PCR testing

## Patient Information – Sexual Health / Laboratories

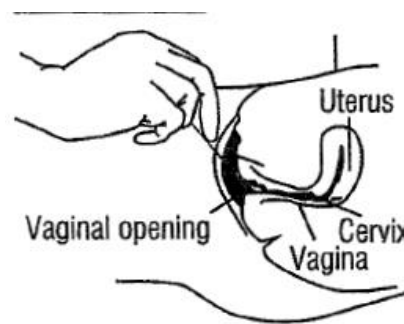
### Vaginal Swab

\*CAUTION: Do NOT expose swab to Transport Buffer prior to collection

\*CAUTION: Use of some lubricant gels can cause significant inhibition of PCR tests. Use of “Shield Gel” lubricant is indicated to avoid PCR inhibition issues with Vaginal swabs.



1. Open kit and remove orange topped tube. Discard transfer pipette, it is not required
2. Remove the sterile swab from the wrapper, taking care not to touch swab tip or lay it down on any surface.
3. Insert white tip of the specimen collection swab about two inches (5cm) into the opening of the vagina.
4. Gently rotate the swab for 15 to 30 seconds against the sides of the vagina.
5. Withdraw the swab carefully.
6. Handle the cap and tube carefully to avoid contamination.
7. Unscrew the transport tube cap and immediately place the specimen collection swab into the transport tube so the white tip is down.
8. **Carefully break the swab at the scored line** on the shaft; use care to avoid splashing of contents.
9. Recap the transport tube. Ensure the cap seals tightly.
10. Label the transport tube with sample identification information, including date of collection.
11. Place in specimen collection bag and return as instructed by care provider.



**PLEASE LABEL ALL SAMPLES AND MAKE SURE THE LIDS ARE FIRMLY CLOSED**