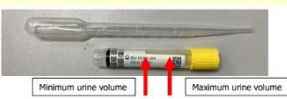


Swab Chart November 2025

pathlab Swab Chart November 2025		Description	Swab/Kit Name	Shaft	Transport Medium	Comments	TEST					SITES																										
							Bacterial	Virus NAAT	Pertussis NAAT	STI Molecular Panel#	Herpes (skin)	Sterile sites	Wounds / Skin	Low nose	Naso-pharynx	Throat	Conjunctival	Ear	Vaginal	Urethral	Cervix, Rectal / STI																	
CULTURE SWABS – BACTERIAL							ASPIRATES OR TISSUE SAMPLES PREFERABLE																															
White Screw Top Tube		General purpose bacterial culture swab (including Throat; MDRO screens – MRSA, ESBL, CPE, VRE; and gonorrhoea culture)	Copan eSwab or Puritan Opti-Swab	Rigid snap-able	Liquid Amies Medium	* Use green BD tube for STI molecular (chlamydia, gonorrhoea, trichomonas NAAT)																		Y						Y	Y		Y*	Y*	Y	Y		Y*
Orange Screw Top Tube		Small swab for ears, eyes bacterial culture (and urethral for gonorrhoea culture)	Copan 481CE	Flexible snap-able	Liquid Amies Medium	* Use green BD tube for chlamydia & gonorrhoea NAAT																		Y										Y*	Y		Y*	
MOLECULAR SWABS (+ STI URINE) – VIRAL and/or BACTERIAL																																						
Viral or Universal transport media tube (VTM) (UTM) colours Purple, Red, Green		Viral testing- MUST specify virus to test for (Molecular testing only)	Standard flocked swab	Rigid snap-able	Liquid medium, VTM or UTM	Skin and oral swabs (e.g. HSV, VZV, Mpox)		Y				Y				Y		Y	Y																			
			Flexible flocked swab	Fine flexible snap-able Use for naso-pharyngeal	Liquid medium, VTM or UTM	Influenza/RSV/ Measles/Pertussis MUST be naso-pharyngeal swab, (nose &/or throat swab NOT suitable).			Y	Y						Y																						
Green BD Screw Top Tube*		Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea NAAT, & genital sites Trichomonas NAAT	BD Swab collection kit	Rigid snap-able	Buffer	Recommended specimen: Female – vaginal or cervical swab Male – first catch urine						Y					Y	Y		Y	Y	Y																
Yellow BD Screw Top Tube – First Catch Urine		Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea, & Trichomonas NAAT	BD Urine transport kit	Transfer pipette	Urine preservative									Y								Y																
Pink Screw Top Tube		HPV Vaginal Screening swab	HPV swab collection kit	Rigid snap-able	Buffer or Dry	HPV vaginal primary screening only		Y												Y																		