

The Right Swab for the Right Job

Questions? Call the Altru microbiology laboratory at 780-5131 or visit altrulab.testcatalog.org



BD ESwab Transport System (Eswab)¹ :

LAB503: Aerobic culture with Gram Stain²

LAB233: Anaerobic culture²

LAB885: Rapid Strep A by NAT

LAB465: Genital culture

FGEN: Fungus culture

FDERM: Fungus culture (Hair, skin, nails)

LAB228: Throat Culture



BBL Culture Swab (double swab, red cap):

LAB251: KOH

LAB503: Aerobic culture with Gram Stain^{1,2}

LAB234: MRSA nasal screen

LAB5027: VRE rectal screen

LAB502: Group B Strep screen, prenatal

LAB10751: Herpes Simplex Virus 1 & 2 PCR (place swab in tube of UTM or VTM)

LVZV: Varicella zoster virus lesion PCR



SP Brand CultureSwab (single swab, white cap):

LAB251: KOH

LAB5027: VRE rectal screen

LAB8003: NEOS (nasal smear for eosinophils)



BD Universal Viral Transport Medium (3 ml) and Nasopharyngeal FLOQSwab:

LAB10709: SARS-CoV-2 by NAAT

LAB10713: Influenza A/B & SARS-CoV-2

LAB10714: Influenza A/B, RSV, & SARS-CoV-2

LAB5072: Influenza A/B & RSV

LAB5053: Respiratory pathogen panel (high-risk patients)

LAB923: B. pertussis, PCR (at NDDOH)

LAB10751: Herpes Simplex Virus 1 & 2 PCR



Aptima swabs³ :

LAB5043: Chlamydia trachomatis by Nucleic Acid Test

LAB5044: Neisseria gonorrhoeae by Nucleic Acid Test

- Unisex swab (white label): endocervical or urethral
- Multitest swab (orange label): vaginal, throat, rectal

LAB5022: Multiplex Vaginal Panel by PCR (M-F)

- Multitest swab (orange label): vaginal



Xpert Swab Specimen Collection Kit (SWAB/G-50-US or SWAB/G-50):

LAB5022: Multiplex Vaginal Panel by PCR (STAT)

Foot Notes:

1) ESwab is the recommended swab for bacterial culture (aerobic/anaerobic).

2) Whenever possible, send tissue or fluid instead of a swab for culture. Swabs should be avoided for fungal and AFB (Mycobacteria) cultures.

3) Urine may also be tested for CT/GC; see specific collection instructions on altrulab.testcatalog.org