**eSwab specimen collection:**

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves if necessary.
2. Perform positive patient identification.
3. Open the peel pouch.
4. Remove the swab.
5. Collect the patient sample using the swab**. Avoid touching the swab applicator below the pink molded breakpoint** as this could lead to contamination and incorrect test results.
6. Remove the screw cap from the tube and insert the swab **all the way to the bottom of the tube**.
7. Holding the swab shaft close to the rim of the tube, and keeping the tube away from your face, break the applicator shaft at the pink breakpoint indication line.
8. **Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.**
9. Dispose of the swab shaft in a regular trash receptacle.
10. Apply patient identification label or write patient information on the tube label.
11. Transport the specimen to the laboratory per routine procedure.
12. Remove gloves if necessary and perform hand hygiene.

This link demonstrates specimen collection (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOjAWgSJvh4>).

Note:

1. Do not send a dry eSwab as this will lead to unsatisfactory results.
2. If the tube spills prior to swab insertion, the liquid is non-toxic. Place the swab into another tube before sending to the laboratory and discard the spilled tube.
3. If the tube spills after swab insertion, follow procedure for blood and body fluid clean-up.
4. If contaminated fluid splashes onto the personnel collecting the sample, treat as a blood and body fluid exposure.