

Neisseria gonorrhoeae Culture Kits (6 Packs)

Instructions for the collection and transportation of clinical specimens for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* culture.

The *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* culture kit consists of 6 Amies Charcoal transport media with large swabs for the collection of endocervical or anal specimens, 6 biohazard bags and 6 Public Health Laboratory Requisitions (male urethral swabs not included). If required, the collection kit also includes 6 slides and 6 cotton tipped swabs for preparing slide examinations for the additional detection of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* from male urethral specimens or the detection of Bacterial Vaginosis, Yeast cells and *Trichomonas vaginalis* from female vaginal specimens.

1. See reverse for collection instructions and **DO NOT USE EXPIRED KITS**.
2. Open the pouched seal pack and aseptically remove the sterile swab from the package.
3. Collect the specimen from the site involved as early as possible following the onset of symptoms.
4. Label the specimen tube with two patient identifiers (e.g. name and date of birth).
5. Place specimen in the biohazard bag and seal bag.
6. Complete the PHL requisition including the PHL test code, source of specimen, date of onset and collection, two patient identifiers, physician name and clinical diagnosis. Insert completed requisition in the pocket on the outside of the biohazard bag.
7. To maintain optimum viability, the specimen should be stored and transported at room temperature or incubated at 35 – 37°C and transported to the laboratory as soon as possible for processing.

STORAGE - The Amies Charcoal transport media can be stored at room temperature, expiry date on collection container.

TO ORDER KITS or INFORMATION: Contact OAHPP order desk, Public Health Laboratory Toronto @ 416 235-5937 or order by fax @ 416 235-5753 or your local Public Health Laboratory.

Collection of specimens for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* culture

1. URETHRA

- a. Retract the prepuce from glans penis and wipe meatus with sterile gauze.
- b. Digitally “milk” the penile urethra to obtain sufficient exudate.
- c. Use one swab to collect the exudates.
- d. Place this swab in the Amies charcoal transport media.
- e. Use a second swab to collect another sample of secretion.
- f. Make a thin smear by rolling the swab on the microscopic slide and air dry the smear.

2. ENDOCERVIX

- a. The patient should not douche for 24 hours nor use vaginal medication for 48 hours before the specimen is taken.
- b. Moisten speculum with water – do not use any other lubricant.
- c. Insert one swab into the endocervical canal and move from side to side. Allow several seconds for absorption of organisms onto swab.
- d. Place this swab in the Amies charcoal transport medium.
- e. Use a second swab to collect another sample of secretion.
- f. If required, make a thin smear by rolling the swab on the microscopic slide and air dry the smear.

3. ANUS

- a. Insert swab approximately 3-4 cm into anal canal, or 1-4 cm beyond edge of anoscope.
- b. If the swab is stained with faeces, use another swab to obtain specimen.
- c. Move swab from side to side in the anal canal to sample crypts. Allow several seconds for absorption of organisms onto swab.
- d. Place this swab in the Amies charcoal transport medium.

4. PHARYNGEAL

- a. Aseptically remove sterile swab from package
- b. Insert swab via mouth and collect specimen by vigorously swabbing posterior pharynx and tonsillar regions.
- c. Place the swab in Amies charcoal transport medium. Close tightly.

5. EYE

- a. Gently swab area of discharge from eye suspected of infection. Place the swab in Amies charcoal transport medium

After collecting the specimen, it is essential that the swab be placed in the transport medium immediately. The swab shaft should fit completely inside the transport medium vial. Label the specimen tube with two patient identifiers (e.g. name and date of birth) and identify the specimen site. (See reverse for detailed instructions).