



Technical Bulletin

Update on Testing for Sexually Transmitted Infections

TO: Medical Staff and Clients

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SUBJECT: **New collection kit and test expansion for Chlamydia and gonorrhea**

DLS is pleased to announce two important developments around testing for *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC).

1) DLS will now be supplying cobas® PCR Swab Sample Kits

DLS validated the use of media in the cobas® PCR Swab Sample Kits, and we intend it to be the primary media rather than UTM. We prefer this media for several reasons:

- a) Inactivates microbes and stabilizes nucleic acid
- b) Superior stability - up to 12 months at room temp
- c) Specimens are very rarely used for culture, which was the purpose of UTM
- d) FDA approved for genital, rectal and throat specimens

2) Testing on Anorectal (Anal/Rectal) and Oropharyngeal (Throat) is now available

These specimen sources (**rectal** and **throat**) require the **cobas® PCR Swab Sample Kits** because of FDA labeling. The order code (183) for CT and GC, (484) for CT only, and (479) for GC only remain the same and acceptable sources have been updated to include throat and rectal. These **no longer** need APTIMA® collection kits. Patients must be at least 14 years old.

DLS will continue to accept UTM for **genital** sites only, as well as cytology collection media (SurePath and ThinPrep PresevCyt).

The FDA-labeling of this product is age-restricted to patients who are 14 years old and older. It is also NOT labeled for the evaluation of suspected abuse cases. Please see Technical Bulletin dated November 13, 2018:

<https://dlslab.com/documents/bulletins/2018/tech-memo-gc-ct-pediatric-testing.pdf>. We are able to send these to a reference laboratory (order code 5127) and specimen collection devices are Aptima®, which are available from DLS Supply.

Specimen collection guide and instruction for use of the **cobas® PCR Swab Sample Kits** is available on the DLS website: <https://dlslab.com/specimen-collection-guides/ctng-pcr/> and from your marketing representative.

Please refer any questions to Jason Pon, Manager - DLS Molecular Laboratories at 808-441-5469 or DLS Client Services at 589-5101.

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