



Chlamydia & Gonorrhoea Molecular Testing New Collection Kit

Pathlab are changing from the yellow Roche cobas tubes to the black BD ProbeTec Qx tubes for chlamydia, and gonorrhoea molecular testing. There are two different kits, the ProbeTec Qx Female Endocervical Specimen Collection Kit and the ProbeTec Qx Urine Preservative Transport (UPT) kit.

What does this mean for you?

Female Endocervical Specimen Collection Kit



1. This will replace the current pink pack with yellow tube Roche cobas PCR Female Swab Sample Packet. (Please use up all existing stock before changing to the black BD Female Endocervical Specimen Collection Kit).
2. As the BD Qx tube contains a liquid transport media the **collection tube must remain in an upright position while the lid is removed.**
3. The kit can be used for both clinician collected endocervical swabs and patient self-collected vaginal swabs.
 - Endocervical collection – use the white swab to remove excess blood and mucus from the cervical os. Use the pink swab for specimen collection.
 - Vaginal self-collection – discard the white swab and use the pink swab for specimen collection.
4. Collection procedure
 - a. Collect the patient sample using the pink swab. Avoid touching the swab applicator below the moulded breakpoint as this could lead to contamination.
 - b. Remove the screw cap from the tube and fully insert the swab into the Qx tube.
 - c. 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 breakpoint indication line.** (Ensure the swab shaft does not protrude above the tube rim or it will puncture the foil cap).
 - d. **Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.**
 - e. Dispose of the swab shaft in a waste receptacle.
 - f. **Write** patient information (full name, NHI number, and date-of-birth) on the tube label.
 - g. Transport to the laboratory, (stable for 14 days at 2 – 30°C).

CLINICAL UPDATE

Urine Preservative Transport (UPT) Specimen Collection Kit

1. This will replace the current yellow Roche cobas PCR Urine Sample Packet. (Please use up all existing stock before changing to the black BD UPT Specimen Collection Kit).
2. As the BD UPT tube contains a liquid transport media the **collection tube must remain in an upright position while the lid is removed.**
3. The kit can be used for both male and female first catch urine (FCU) specimens. (However please note the recommended specimen for a female is an endo-cervical or self-collected vaginal swab).
4. Collection procedure
 - a. Collect the FCU (first 10 to 60 ml of voided urine) in a plastic specimen collection cup.
 - b. Hold the UPT upright and firmly tap the bottom of the tube on a flat surface to dislodge any drops of the transport fluid in the cap.
 - c. Remove the screw cap from the tube. Using the pipette mix urine and transfer to the UPT. **Fill the UPT between the purple lines on the fill window (2 – 3 ml).**
 - d. **Screw the cap on securely and invert the UPT 3 to 4 times to ensure the specimen and reagent are well mixed.**
 - e. **Write** patient information (full name, NHI number, and date-of-birth) on the tube label.
 - f. Transport to the laboratory, (stable for 30 days at 2 – 30°C).



There will be a transition period where Pathlab will be able to process both the Roche cobas and BD ProbeTec Qx tubes.

The **last day the yellow Roche cobas tubes can be used is Friday 15th December 2017**, as the equipment will then be removed.

If we receive any yellow Roche tubes after this date we will be unable to process them and a recollect (using the new BD ProbeTec Qx tube) will be required.

Thank you for your assistance in the move to the BD ProbeTec system. If you have any questions with regard to this change please contact me.

Murray Robinson
Lead of Specialty, Microbiology and Molecular Diagnostics
(07) 578 7073 Ext. 6618

CLINICAL UPDATE