



TO: Healthcare Providers

FROM: Beebe Healthcare Laboratory Specimen Processing

DATE: April 4, 2022

SUBJECT: **Herpes Simplex Virus 1 and 2:  
PCR Specimen Collection Change for Viral Media Transport**

Effective immediately Herpes Simplex Virus 1 and 2, PCR testing for oral and genital source collections has changed. We now require all swabs be collected in the Universal Viral Transport System pictured below. (3 ml vial)

**This change provides you with a more-timely turnaround from Mayo Clinic Laboratory interfaced directly into Athena.**

Beebe Healthcare Laboratory will discontinue use of Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kits (Orange Label). Please return any unused supplies of the Aptima Collection Kits to your courier.

To order new swabs, use our Laboratory Supply Order Form to select:

**SWABS: Viral Transport Media HSV (Red or Purple Cap)**

*Please note cap color and manufacturer may vary due to availability*

Thank you.

