

Beebe Healthcare Laboratories makes available a variety of transport system for collection and transport of various specimens. Below are some guidelines to help you select the required media. Choose from the following listed on our **Provider Supply Order Form**:

1. **Aerobic Culturette Swabs** (Throat, Strep, Wound)
2. **Anerobic Culture Transport Swabs** (Anerobic Specimens)
3. **Viral Transport Swabs** (Respiratory & COVID)
4. **Viral Transport Swabs** (Herpes Simplex Virus 1 & 2)

Transport media provides a non-nutrient source that sustains the viability of microorganisms without allowing significant growth. Most transport media have specific ingredients that accomplish these goals, while others are organism specific. Keep in mind there are various brands commercially available so the label, cap color and brand may vary. Please indicate your choice on the **Provider Supply Order Form** and submit to your courier so we can supply you with the appropriate media we have available.

Remember to check the expiration dates and discard any expired material.

The guidelines below will help you select the appropriate media:

AEROBIC CULTURETTE SWABS



These swabs are used for most types of aerobic bacterial cultures from various sources. There are two swabs included in the shaft; one swab used for the culture and the other swab is used for the gram stain, if necessary. The survival of bacteria in a transport medium depends on many factors, including the type of bacteria, specimen source, storage temperature, etc. Many microorganisms will be preserved for up to 48 hours, but there are exceptions based on body site.

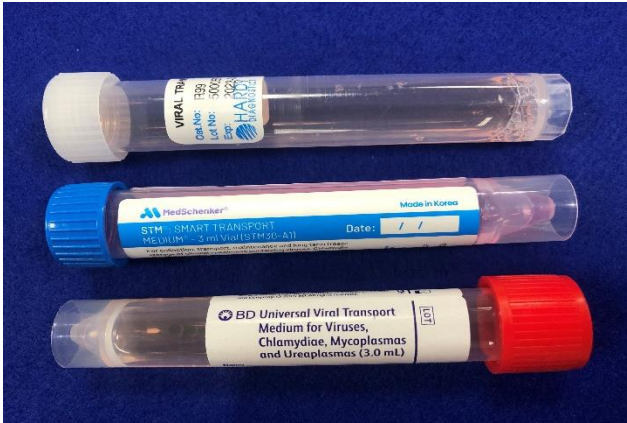
ANAEROBIC CULTURE TRANSPORT SWAB SYSTEM



An Anaerobic Transport System is designed to preserve the recovery of anaerobic bacteria from specific body sites. The containers hold a reduced transport medium designed to maintain the viability of microorganisms for 72 hours when kept at room temperature. Aerobic and facultative aerobic organisms can also be transported in the medium. The vial can accommodate fluid collection.

The cap of the tube incorporates a septum device to allow needle inoculation of fluid specimens. Please note: if you are submitting bone or tissue for culture, do not submerge the specimen into the gel. Either place it on top of the gel or submit it with the specimen in a sterile container/cup. *Use the swab supplied with the system to recover the sample.*

VIRAL TRANSPORT MEDIA / USED FOR RESPIRATORY & COVID



This nasopharyngeal swab is mainly used for direct testing for respiratory viruses like RSV, Influenza and COVID. The viral transport medium is designed to support the growth of media. Transport media is stable at room temperature prior to collection but must be refrigerated after collecting the specimen. Keep in mind transport media can be used to recover numerous viruses from a variety of sources. Due to supply chain conditions and availability the brand and appearance of what you receive from us when you order supplies, may vary.

VIRAL TRANSPORT MEDIA / USED FOR HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS (HSV) 1 & 2



This type of transport medium is used for collecting specimens for Herpes Simplex Virus 1 and 2, PCR testing. It contains an isotonic solution with protein, antibiotics and a pH buffer. Transport media is stable at room temperature prior to collection but must be refrigerated after collecting the specimen. It can be used to recover numerous viruses, Ureaplasma and Mycoplasma from a variety of source. Due to supply chain conditions and availability the brand and appearance of what you receive from us when you order supplies may vary. **NOTE: These can also be used for COVID and respiratory virus testing.**



Nasopharyngeal Swabs are mainly used to collect **respiratory viruses**. They are more flexible and have a molded breakpoint handle. These can be used with the either of the above Viral Transport Media. They are typically used for COVID and respiratory testing.



Polyester tipped applicator swabs are used for **genital, throat and topical skin collection**. These can be used when a more stable applicator is necessary for collection.

Laboratory Supply Order Forms are provided by Beebe Laboratory Couriers OR online at links below:

Via Internet: www.beebemedicalcenter.testcatalog.org

Via BeebeNet: BeebeNet → Clinical Resources → Laboratory