

Clinical Laboratory and Pathology Services

****Swab Specimen Collection Change****

On 8/11/2025, the laboratory will begin switching over to a new swab for specimen collection.

The red-capped Copan Dual Swab culturette is being **replaced** by the ESwab Collection Kit. The ESwab Collection Kit will be used for the following tests for specimens typically collected using a swab:

- Aerobic Bacterial Culture
- Anaerobic Bacterial Culture
- Strep-A PCR from Throat
- MRSA PCR Screening from Nares
- Staph aureus / MRSA Pre-Surgical Screening from Nares

The new ESwab will soon be available in Beebe's central supply for distribution to locations within the hospital system and will be available through our laboratory couriers for distribution to outpatient locations, BMG offices, and non-Beebe physician's offices. Order numbers for both Lawson and McKesson are provided below, depending on how you place your orders for swabs:

- **Lawson Order Number: MS3224**
- **McKesson Order Number: 1103796 or 1134024**

There will be a conversion period during which we will be using up the supply of the old swab and stocking the new swab. The laboratory will accept BOTH types of swabs until everyone's supply has been restocked with the new ESwab. You may continue to use the old swab until October 15th, after which this swab will no longer be accepted.

Please ensure that by the end of September, your location has exhausted your supply of the old swab and is fully stocked with the new ESwab to avoid any specimen rejection issues.

Along with the change of swab will come a change in Rapid Group A Strep Throat testing. During the conversion period, Rapid Strep testing will depend on the type of swab that is received. If the old swab is sent, we will perform Rapid Strep Antigen testing. If the new ESwab is sent, we will perform Strep-A PCR testing. After the September 30th deadline, all Strep Throat testing will be performed by PCR using the new swab.



OLD Collection Swab



NEW Collection Swab

Please direct any questions to Jennifer Blakeney in the Laboratory.

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

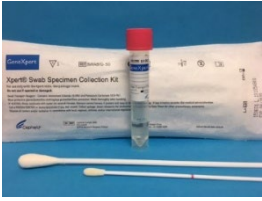




****Transport media has an expiration date. Check the expiration date on the container prior to using**.**











Approved Laboratory Collection Containers:



	<p>Copan E-Swab. Standard collection for specimens typically collected with swabs. Suitable for Aerobic Culture, Anaerobic Culture, Strep-A PCR, Staph/MRSA PCR Screening. Do not use for collecting or transporting bone or tissue specimens.</p>
	<p>Sterile Container. Use to collect larger volume specimens, such as urine, sputum, body fluids, bones, and tissues. Suitable for Aerobic Culture, Anaerobic Culture, AFB Culture and Fungal Culture.</p>
	<p>Cepheid Swab Specimen Collection Kit. Used for Chlamydia/GC from vaginal specimens and for Vaginitis Panel collection.</p>
	<p>Universal Viral Transport Media. Used for Respiratory Virus collection (Flu, RSV, CoVID, Respiratory Pathogen Panel, etc). Can also be used for Herpes and MPOX collection.</p>
	<p>Stool Specimen Collection Kit. Used for laboratory testing involving a stool specimen, such as CDIFF, Gastrointestinal Panel, Fecal WBC, Occult Blood, miscellaneous reference laboratory procedures.</p>
	<p>Pinworm Paddle. Used for Pinworm Test.</p>
	<p>Aptima Unisex Swab. Used for Chlamydia/GC from the EYE or NOSE, and some reference laboratory testing.</p>
	<p>Mini-Tip Culturette with Liquid Stuarts. Used for Bordetella pertussis.</p>

Collection Requirements per Laboratory Test:

<p>Culture - Aerobic / Routine</p> <p>Use a swab for samples easily collected in this manner (such as throat, genital, surface wounds, ear, etc). DO NOT USE the E-Swab tube for urine, body fluids, tissues, or bones; a wide mouth sterile container is better for those types of specimens</p>	<p>Copan E-Swab Sterile Container</p>	
<p>Culture - Anaerobic</p> <p>Anaerobic culture has strict specimen requirements; contact the laboratory with any questions. Copan E-Swab is used for deep wounds/abscesses that are easily collected on a swab. DO NOT USE the E-Swab tube for body fluids, tissues, or bones; a wide mouth sterile container is better for those types of specimens.</p>	<p>Copan E-Swab Sterile Container</p>	
<p>Culture - Acid Fast Bacteria (AFB)</p>	<p>Sterile Container</p>	<p>Any specimen can be collected for Acid Fast Bacteria. Depending on the type of specimen and body location, specimen collection may vary. Most specimens can be placed into a Sterile Container. Swabs are strongly discouraged for AFB Culture unless specimen cannot be obtained any other way.</p>
<p>Culture – Fungus</p>	<p>Sterile Container</p>	<p>Any specimen can be collected for Fungal Culture. Depending on the type of specimen and body location, specimen collection may vary. Most specimens can be placed into a Sterile Container. Swabs are strongly discouraged for Fungal Culture unless specimen cannot be obtained any other way.</p>
<p>Blood</p>	<p>Bact/Alert Blood Culture Bottles</p>	
<p>Bordetella pertussis</p>	<p>NP Swab in Liquid Stuart's Media (green cap).</p> <p>BPRPV - Overview: Bordetella pertussis and Bordetella parapertussis, Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies</p>	
<p>Chlamydia/Gonorrhea – URINE</p> <p>First Catch / Dirty urine must be collected. Volume between 20-50 mL is acceptable.</p>	<p>Urine, First Catch</p>	

<p>Chlamydia/Gonorrhea – VAGINAL/THROAT/RECTUM</p> <p><i>The large swab is used to clean mucous from vagina/cervix prior to collection with the small swab. Do not place large swab into specimen tube.</i></p>	<p>Cepheid Swab Specimen Collection Kit</p>	
<p>Chlamydia/Gonorrhea – EYE / NOSE</p>	<p>Aptima Multitest Swab or Aptima Unisex Swab</p> <p>MCTGC - Overview: Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Miscellaneous Sites, Nucleic Acid Amplification, Varies</p>	
<p>Herpes Simplex Virus</p>	<p>Collection requirements depend on the type of specimen and site of infection.</p> <p>HSVVPV - Overview: Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV), Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies</p>	
<p>M-pox</p>	<p>Swab collected in Viral or Universal Transport Media</p> <p>FMPVP - Overview: Mpox Virus DNA, Qualitative Real-Time PCR</p>	
<p>Mycoplasma genitalium</p>	<p>Urine</p> <p><i>Other types of specimens are acceptable depending on the type of specimen and site of collection.</i></p> <p>AMGEN - Overview: Mycoplasma genitalium, Transcription-Mediated Amplification, Urine or Urogenital Swab</p>	

Mycoplasma hominis	<p>Urine</p> <p><i>Other types of specimens are acceptable depending on the type of specimen and site of collection.</i></p> <p>MHRP - Overview: Metamycoplasma hominis, Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies</p>	
Pinworm	<p>Pinworm Paddle</p> <p><i>Ideally collected between 10pm – 2am. Return to the lab ASAP.</i></p>	 
Respiratory Virus Testing <p><i>Influenza, RSV, SARS-COV-2, Expanded Respiratory Pathogen Panel. Either of these collection devices are acceptable (Copan UTM or BD UVT). Nasopharyngeal swab is required.</i></p>	<p>NP Swab Collected into Viral Transport Media or Universal Viral Transport Media.</p>	
Sputum	<p>Sterile Container</p>	 
Staph / MRSA PCR Testing <p><i>Nasal Screening</i></p>	<p>Copan E-Swab</p>	
Stool Related Testing <p><i>CDIFF, Gastrointestinal Panel, Fecal WBC, Occult Blood, miscellaneous reference laboratory procedures.</i></p>	<p>Stool Specimen in sterile container and orange C&S Vial.</p>	 
Strep-A / Rapid Strep	<p>Copan E-Swab</p>	

Surgical Collected Specimens (Bone, Tissue, Body Fluids)	Sterile Container	
Ureaplasma species	Copan E-Swab <i>Other types of specimens are acceptable depending on the type of specimen and site of collection.</i> URRP - Overview: Ureaplasma species, Molecular Detection, PCR, Varies	
Vaginitis Panel <i>Use the Large Swab to clean mucous from vagina/cervix then discard. Use the Small Swab to sample the vagina for testing. Do not place the large swab into the specimen tube.</i>	Cepheid Swab Specimen Collection Kit	