



# Swab guide

July 2018

## General instructions

- Check expiry date of swab prior to use
- Label with patient's full name, date of birth, gender, collector initials, ID barcode, specimen site and details for date and time of collection
- Ensure cap is replaced firmly
- Swabs should not be refrigerated
- If sampling a site for more than one pathogen, please collect one PCR swab per pathogen requested
- If chlamydia PCR, gonorrhoea PCR (or both) requested, please collect first-void urine even if urethral swab is specified
- If gonorrhoea culture or M/C/S requested, please collect urethral swab (male) or cervical swab (female)
- If sampling pus (e.g. abscess drainage), please collect in yellow top jar

## Bacteriology swab (blue top)



### Any site (including genitals)

Microscopy, culture, antibiotic sensitivities  
Aerobic and anaerobic bacteria



Blue top swab - Product # 11346, contains transport medium

## PCR swab (red top)



### All sites except nasopharynx

One swab per requested pathogen (if possible)

- B. pertussis*
- M. pneumonia*
- Measles
- Herpes/Varicella
- Respiratory viruses
- Self-collected HPV tests



Red top flocked swab - Product #24159

## PCR swab (orange top)



### Nasopharynx

When nasopharyngeal swab requested

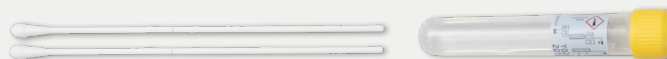


Orange top flocked swab (thin shaft) - Product #24132

## PCR Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea (CT/NG) - females

### Cervical/vaginal/eye

- Chlamydia trachomatis* and/or *N. gonorrhoeae*



Female PCR swab - Product #46047