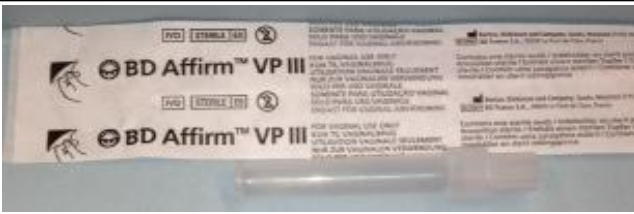
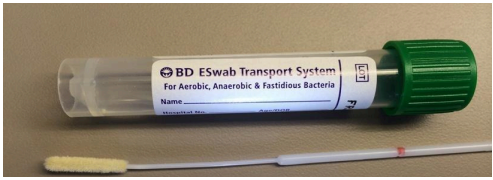






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 Refer to Lab Test Directory for more detailed information or CHIHealth.com/laboratory



Microbiology Specimen Collection Guide

January 2024

Device		Used For:	Stability
	Affirm Kit, Vaginal DNA Probe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaginal DNA Probe <i>Candida, Gardnerella, and Trichomonas</i> 	Ambient or Refrigerated Stable: <72 hours
 <p style="text-align: center;">Flexible mini-tip for small openings Nasopharyngeal swab for bacterial culture only.</p>	ESwab Mini-tip DO NOT USE FOR VIRAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bacterial Cultures/<i>Aerobic and Anaerobic</i> Candida Screen MRSA Screen Eye/Ear bacterial cultures Sinus bacterial culture 	Ambient Stable: <48 hours
	ESwab Standard Primary Bacterial Culture Swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bacterial Cultures/ <i>Aerobic and Anaerobic</i> Gram Stain Genital Culture Strep A PCR Throat Group B Strep 	eSwab® Stable: 48 hour Ambient Gonorrhea Culture for Anal, Throat, Eye, Child < 24 hours

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Routine/ Wound Culture 	
	Universal Viral Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Viral Culture ● COVID19 ● Influenza Type A/B and RSV PCR ● Resp Panel 4-Plex (Flu A & B, RSV, COVID) ● Herpes Simplex 1 & 2 PCR ● Varicella Zoster PCR (<i>Shingles</i>) ● Bordetella Pertussis PCR ● Enterovirus PCR ● Chlamydia Culture 	<p>Viral Culture, COVID19, Resp Panel 4-Plex, RSV Ag, Stable: Refrigerated 3 days</p> <p>Influenza Type A/B and RSV PCR, Herpes PCR, VZV PCR Stable: Refrigerated 1 week</p> <p>Bordetella Pertussis PCR Stable: Frozen 3 months</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Mini Tip swab for Nasopharyngeal Collection </div>			
	Thin Prep PAP Media Cervical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PAP ● Chlamydia/Gonorrhea by PCR <i>Molecular Testing for Genital sources</i> ● HPV Testing 	<p>Chlamydia/Gonorrhea Stable: Ambient/Refrig 12 months</p> <p>HPV Stable Ambient/Refrigerated 6 months</p>
	Sterile Cup & Urine C&S Transport Tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clean-Catch Urine Culture <p><i>Urine Transport tube can only be used for urine culture not UA.</i></p>	<p>Urine Sterile Cup Stable: Refrigerated <24 hours</p> <p>Urine Transport Tube Stable: Ambient or Refrigerated 48 hours</p>



**Total-Fix
Stool Fixative**
Stool/Fecal or
Colon Aspirate

- Ova & Parasites

Stool must be put in fixative
within 2 hours of collection

Total-Fix Fixative
Stable: Ambient <1 month



**Para-Pak
Enteric Plus**
Loose, Diarrheal
Stool or Colon
Aspirate

- Fecal/Stool Culture
- GI Pathogen Profile by PCR
*Must submit both a fresh stool sample
in Clean container along with Enteric
Plus stool sample.*
- Cryptosporidium Antigen
- Giardia Antigen
- Giardia/Crypto Screen

Stool must be put in transport
media within
2 hours of collection

Enteric Plus- Ambient
Stable: <96 hours

Fresh-Ambient Stable:
<2 hours



**Para-Pak
Clean Vial**
Loose, Diarrheal
Stool or Colon
Aspirate


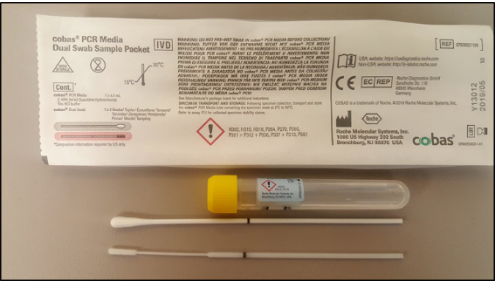

- Clostridium Difficile by PCR (*C Diff*)
No Formed stools
- Calprotectin
- Helicobacter Pylori Antigen
- Rotavirus Ag
- Norovirus by PCR
- Fecal WBC
- Occult Blood
- GI Pathogen Profile by PCR

C Diff,
Stable: Refrigerated 5 days

Calprotectin
Stable: Refrigerated 5 days

H Pylori & Rotavirus Stable:
Refrigerated 3 days

Norovirus
Stable Frozen 1 month
Fecal WBC Stable
Ambient/Refrigerated
2 weeks

		<p><i>Must submit both a fresh stool sample in Clean container along with Enteric Plus stool sample.</i></p>	<p>Occult blood Stable: Refrigerated 7 days</p>
	<p>Sterile Cup/Sterile Conical Tube</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urine Cultures • Body Fluids • Sputum Culture • Fungal Derm culture <i>Nail Clippings and Skin scrapings</i> • Tissue Culture • Clostridium Difficile by PCR (<i>C Diff</i>) <i>No Formed stools</i> 	<p>Urine Stable Refrigerated 24 hours</p> <p>Body Fluids and Tissue Stable Ambient 24 hours</p> <p>C diff Stable: Refrigerated 5 days</p>
	<p>Cobas® PCR Female Swab & Media Tube Female Only</p> <p><i>Vaginal or Endocervical</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chlamydia/Gonorrhea by PCR on Genital Specimens 	<p>Stable Ambient or Refrigerated for 12 months</p>
	<p>Cobas® PCR Urine Media Tube Male or Female</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chlamydia/Gonorrhea by PCR, Urine <p><i>Urine: First Morning Void, NOT Clean Catch Urine</i></p>	<p>Stable Ambient or Refrigerated for 12 months</p>