

Exhibit A



***Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Culture Collection**

- This test is used to isolate *N. gonorrhoeae* cultures to test for resistance/susceptibility against the antibiotics Ceftriaxone, Cefixime, Azithromycin, and Ciprofloxacin.
- **If multiple specimens are being collected from an anatomic site, *N. gonorrhoeae* culture specimens should be obtained first; this sequence maximizes the load collected, which increases the likelihood of a successful culture.**
- Please use the collection kits provided by the Humboldt County Public Health Laboratory (HCPHL):
 - **Amies Transport Swab**
- Please fill out HCPHL requisition completely and legibly for each sample.

Specimen Collection:

ENDOCERVICAL Collection: Preferred site for specimens from females. Swabs should be inserted 1–2 cm into the endocervical canal. Rotate swab against the wall of the endocervical canal several times for 20-30 seconds and withdraw without touching the vaginal surface.

VAGINAL Self Collection: Acceptable site for specimens from females. Swabs should be inserted 2 inches past the opening of the vagina. Rotate the swab for 10-30 seconds, making sure the swab touches the wall of the vagina.

URETHRAL Collection: Preferred site in men, or in women with no cervix. Delay obtaining specimens until 2 hours after patient has last voided. Gently insert the urogenital swab into the urethra (women 1-2 cm, men 2-4 cm). Rotate the swab in one direction for at least one revolution for a minimum of 10 seconds.

In cases of urethritis, collection of the exudate is sufficient for *N. gonorrhoeae* culture.

OROPHARYNGEAL Collection: Swab the back of throat and tonsillar area with a sterile swab.

RECTAL Self Collection: Insert sterile swab approximately 1-1.5 inches in the anal canal. Move swab from side to side in the anal canal to sample crypts. Allow swab to remain 10-30 seconds for absorption of organisms onto the swab.

Handling Conditions:

- Return swab (still attached to cap) firmly into the agar gel in the transport tube.
- Keep the specimen at room temperature.
- Notify the HCPHL at 707-268-2179 for **immediate pick-up**.

*****Please call the Humboldt County Public Health Laboratory if you have any questions.
707-268-2179**

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Guidelines.doc