

SWAB COLLECTION GUIDE

Please ensure that all specimens have the patients surname, first name, date of birth, site of collection, time and date of collection. Store and transport all samples at room temperature.

TESTS REQUIRED	INSTRUCTIONS	SPECIMEN COLLECTION EQUIPMENT
MC&S – BLUE TOP - GEL SWAB		
<p>BACTERIAL GEL SWAB FOR GENERAL USE MC&S ORGANISM: Bacteria. Including fastidious organisms such as Streptococcus sp., anaerobes & yeasts. Not PCR SITE: Commonly nose, throat, vaginal, wound and skin swabs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample infected area for culture Place into culture tube 	
<p>MRSA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect from - anterior nares, (using one swab for both nostrils), throat swab, others as required e.g. wounds, devices etc., additional sites as specified by Infection Control 	
PCR - WHITE TOP DRY SWAB		
<p>GENERAL VIRAL / BACTERIAL ORGANISM: General Bacterial PCR, Herpes multiplex; HSV1 & 2, VZV, N.gonorrhoeae and Chlamydia trachomatis SITE: Genital lesion, vesicle, ulcer, nose, throat, mouth, eye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in acute phase. Collect fluid by removing vesicle surface (scrape base of lesion with swab) Moisten the area and collect as much material as possible If dry lesion, wet swab with sterile water or saline If required the Dry (FLOQ) Swab (orange top) may be used for smaller orifices 	
PCR - ORANGE TOP - DRY (FLOQ) SWAB		
<p>DRY FLEXIBLE SWAB NASOPHARYNGEAL and RESPIRATORY VIRUS / BACTERIAL ORGANISM: Respiratory viruses including Flu A/B, Para Flu 1-3 and RSV and Bordetella pertussis SITE: Nasopharyngeal swab. Also pernasal & throat swabs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For nasopharyngeal - insert swab into nose and slide along floor of nasal cavity approximately the length of the patient's index finger. For a respiratory viruses – a nasal swab is better than a throat swab. 	
HPV PCR - RED TOP - SELF COLLECT		
<p>DRY SWAB – HPV PATIENT SELF COLLECT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection must be supervised but not witnessed by a clinician Only Copan FLOQSwab 552C.80 is validated for self collect at medical practice Only Copan FLOQSwab 552C is validated for self collect at home 	