

Aptima Bacterial Vaginosis Assay

The assay is intended to aid in the diagnosis of Bacterial Vaginosis using vaginal swab specimens from females with a clinical presentation consistent with vaginitis and/or vaginosis.

A. Specimen collection

Note: Handle all specimens as if they contain potentially infectious agents. Use Universal Precautions.

Note: Take care to avoid cross-contamination during sample handling steps. For example, discard used material without passing over open tubes.

A vaginal swab specimen collected with the Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit is the only acceptable specimen type for the Aptima BV assay. The Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection instructions are as follows:



Partially open swab package and remove swab. Do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down. If the soft tip is touched, laid down, or dropped, discard and get a new Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit. **Hold swab, placing thumb and forefinger in the middle of shaft covering black score line.** Do not hold shaft below score line.



Carefully insert swab into the vagina about 2 inches (5 cm) past the introitus and gently **rotate swab for 10 to 30 seconds.** Make sure swab touches vaginal walls so that moisture is absorbed by swab. Withdraw swab without touching skin.



While holding swab in hand, unscrew tube cap. Do not spill tube contents. If tube contents are spilled, discard and replace with a new Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit.



Immediately place swab into transport tube so black score line is at top of tube. **Align the score line with top edge of tube and carefully break shaft.** Discard top portion of shaft.



Tightly screw cap onto tube. When collecting multiple specimens from the same patient, the tube label provides a specimen source field for unique identification for specimen location.

B. Specimen transport and storage before testing:

After collection, swab specimens in transport tubes can be stored at 2°C to 8°C or 15°C to 30°C for up to 30 days.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or need more information, contact Cytology at Pathology Services Laboratory by phone at 479-968-6781 or 1-800-874-4904 or by email at PSLab@pathologyserviceslab.com.