

UNIVERSAL TRANSPORT MEDIUM & COLLECTION INSTRUCTION

RED UNIVERSAL TRANSPORT MEDIUM (UTM) KIT IS REPLACING THE GREEN VIRUS TRANSPORT SWAB



The UTM Kit contains:

- 3mL UTM solution tube (containing antibiotics and fungicide)
- 1 small nasopharyngeal flocked swab (nasal or nasopharyngeal sites)
- 1 regular flocked swab (suitable for all other skin or mucosal specimens)

The UTM kit is used for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing of the following:

- Viruses (respiratory and other)
- Bacterial pathogens including:
 - *Bordetella pertussis* (single nasopharyngeal specimen required, throat swab inferior but accepted)
 - *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, *Chlamydia psittaci*, *Chlamydophila (Chlamydia) pneumoniae*
 - *Mycoplasma genitalium* and *Ureaplasma* sp. (genital tract samples)

NOTES:

1. The UTM swab is **NOT** suitable for *Chlamydia trachomatis* or *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* PCR. Please continue to use the Yellow Roche COBAS PCR Female Swab Sample kit or collect initial stream urine.
2. The UTM swab is **NOT** suitable for bacterial or fungal culture, as the solution contains antibiotics and fungicide. Please use the correct bacterial E-swab kit for this purpose.

ACCESS TO UTM SWABS:

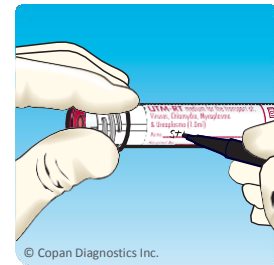
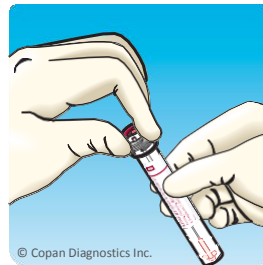
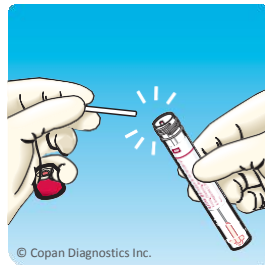
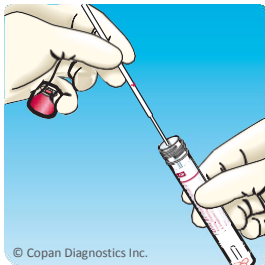
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Universal Transport Medium (UTM) Swab collection Procedure

- 1) Perform hand hygiene and don personal protective equipment, including safety glasses, as required by Standard Precautions.
- 2) Choose the appropriate swab for the site being sampled. Note that both swabs can be placed in the UTM tube for combined testing e.g. throat and nasal swabs for respiratory multiplex PCR.
- 3) Do **NOT** pre-wet swab in the UTM solution before collection.
- 4) Rotate the swab gently against site of collection for 10-15 seconds to collect patient cells and secretions.



- 5) While holding the swab in the same hand, remove the cap from the UTM tube. Place swab into the tube of UTM all the way to the bottom of the tube.
- 6) Holding the swab shaft close to the rim of the tube, break the applicator shaft at the coloured breakpoint indication line. Hold the tube opening away from your face.
- 7) Repeat process with second swab if required.
- 8) Seal UTM tube with cap. Ensure lid is on tight to avoid leakage in transport to laboratory.
- 9) Label UTM tube with patient identification information (at least two identifiers) and specify collection site, date and time on pathology request form.
- 10) Transport the specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible. If transport delayed, store and transport at 2-8°C.

For further information/instruction please contact Lynelle Tilbrook, Microbiology 02 49214452.

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