

Source Sites for CT/GC

As of May 2011, the Ontario Public Health Lab (OPHL) will no longer accept Vaginal swabs for CT/GC NAA testing. Vaginal swabs are not a recommended source site for CT/GC testing, rather they are used for yeast and trichomonas vaginalis. The source site would be urethral for males and cervix for females.

Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing (NAAT) GEN-PROBE® APTIMA®

Specimens for NAAT may be submitted for Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) only or for CT/GC duplex testing.

Collection Kit	Specimen	When to use.....
Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit	Endocervical and male urethral swab specimens	for routine testing for the detection of CT and GC from genital sources
Urine Specimen Collection Kit	Male or Female urine *Neat urines not acceptable specimen	for routine testing for the detection of CT and GC from urine specimens - recommended for hysterectomy patient samples

Culture

Collection Kit	Specimen	When to use.....
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> - Multi-organism transport kit	Non-genital source - e.g. rectal, pharyngeal, conjunctival scrapings / swab, sexual assault cases, auger suction, transtracheal / nasopharyngeal aspirate from neonates Genital source	for non-genital specimens and for the detection of viable organism - for genital specimens from pre-pubertal patients - test of cure for genital and non-genital specimens
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> - Amies Charcoal Transport Kit, for swabs - Sterile collection container for fluids	Non-genital source - e.g. rectal, pharyngeal and conjunctival swabs, joint aspirate, sexual assault cases Genital source	for non-genital specimens, for the detection of viable organism and susceptibility testing - for genital specimens from pre-pubertal patients - test of cure for genital and non-genital specimens

Test of Cure for CT/GC is not routinely indicated. Repeat testing is indicated when 1) compliance is difficult to ensure (e.g. failure to take or finish medication), 2) if an alternative treatment has been used, 3) in all prepubertal children, and 4) in all pregnant women. If done, repeat testing should be performed at 3 to 4 weeks after the completion of treatment.

ECP's Available at Pharmacies and Health Unit

Due to the fact that Wyeth is no longer producing the oral contraceptive Ovral, the health unit is no longer able to provide the free ECP kits to your offices or local emergency rooms.

Plan B is available over the counter at local pharmacies (see insert). Cost is dependent

on what pharmacy is accessed. Plan B is also available at the health unit, both Simcoe and Caledonia at a cost of \$10.00, an appointment is necessary.

As a reminder, Plan B recommends use within 72 hours (3 days) and the SOGC recommends the use of ECP's up to 120 hours (5

days) after unprotected intercourse (SOGC Clinical Practice Guidelines). Both pills are to be taken at the same time.

Please contact 519-426-6170, ext 3225 or 905-318-5367, ext 346 for any questions, if you have patients wanting an appointment or for more information.

Flu Season is on its Way...

With the initiation of influenza season, we would like to remind each of you to educate and encourage your colleagues, clients, friends and family to get their annual flu shot. The influenza vaccine not only protects themselves, but also their loved ones. Remember the single **BEST** way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year.

Good health habits can help the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses such as the flu. Common Infection prevention and control measures should be practiced within each office on a regular basis, such as:

- Having alcohol based hand rub

(ABHR) readily available for clients to promote frequent hand hygiene

- Encourage respiratory etiquette, reminding individuals to cover their cough and sneeze in their sleeve
- Avoid close contact, for those who are symptomatic offer masks to be worn while in a populated area
- Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces such as door knobs, telephones, etc.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy influenza season!

