
Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: VAGINAL/PENILE WET PREP

General Information

Lab Order Codes: WETP

Synonyms: Trich Prep; Wet Prep for *Trichomonas vaginalis*

CPT Codes: 87210 – Smear, primary source with interpretation; wet mount for infectious agents

Test Includes: Direct microscopic examination of specimen for motile trichomonads, exam for clue cells, yeast and WBC's.

Logistics

Lab Testing Sections: Microbiology

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-5866

STP Lab: 651-220-6555

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 hour

Special Instructions: **Specimen site and date/time of collection** are required for specimen processing.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Vaginal or urethral discharges, prostatic fluid

Container: Culturette Swab

Collection: **Urogenital: penile, urethral, or vaginal**

1. Collect discharge material with culturette swab.

Transport/Storage: **On site collections:** Transport culturette swab to the Microbiology lab as soon as possible after collection at room temperature.

Offsite collections: For optimal results call a stat courier, send specimen at room temperature for delivery to Children's laboratory within 1 hour of collection.

If the specimen cannot be sent immediately or is delayed, place specimen in swab transport medium which will keep organisms viable for approximately 24 hours.

• **Do not refrigerate.** Refrigeration inhibits the motility of *Trichomonas*.

Sample Rejection: Improperly labeled specimen; specimens with prolonged transit time (see [Transport/Storage](#) for requirements); specimen not submitted in appropriate transport container; insufficient volume; external contamination. If an unacceptable specimen is received, the physician or nursing station will be notified and another specimen will be requested before the specimen is discarded.

Interpretive

Reference Range: No motile *Trichomonas* seen

Limitations: False negative results occur in approximately 40% of women with trichomoniasis.

Methodology: Wet mount

References: Shimizu, Robyn Y (2010) Parasitology Section, Urogenital Specimens: Direct Saline Mount, section 9.6.6, in L. Garcia (ed) Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, American Society of Microbiology, Washington DC

Miller, J Michael (1999) A Guide To Specimen Management in Clinical Microbiology, American Society for Microbiology, Washington DC

Miller, J Michael, and HT Holmes (1999) Specimen Collection, Transport, and Storage In PR Murray et al, (ed), Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 7th edition, American Society for Microbiology, Washington DC, pp 33-104

Updates: 3/9/2011: Sterile saline tubes and Amies transport are no longer required containers for this testing.
1/13/2014: Add offsite collection instructions.
7/9/2014: Added specimen processing for offsite collections.
9/9/2015: Name update, previously *Trichomonas* Wet Prep.