

<i>Nursing Station Manual</i>	Title: Vagina/Anorectal Swab for Group B Streptococci
Section: Microbiology	Original Preparation Date: November 2002
Written / Issued by: Laboratory Manager	Revision Date: March 2005, Nov 2005, Nov 2006
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Review Date:

Vaginal / Anorectal Swab for Group B Streptococci:

1.0. Introduction:

Routine: A swab obtained from the combined introital (vaginal) and anorectal areas should be collected at 35 – 37 weeks' gestation for anogenital GBS colonization. Cervical and vaginal swabs are not recommended for this type of culture but will be processed if received in the laboratory.

2.0. Collection Procedure: Swab in transport medium (Amies).

- 2.1. Wipe away excessive amount of secretion or discharge.
- 2.2. Collect a single swab of the distal vaginal and anorectum.
- 2.3. Place the swab in transport media.
- 2.4. Label the outside of the transport medium with the patient's name, date and time of collection.
- 2.5. Complete a Microbiology Requisition. Indicate clinical diagnosis, medication and special requests, if any.

3.0. Procedural Note:

- 3.1. If same day transport to the lab is not possible, store the inoculated swab at room temperature. DO NOT REFRIGERATE.

References:

1. Prevention of Perinatal Group B Streptococci Disease: A Public Perspective, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC, 1996.
2. Statement on the Prevention of Early Onset Group B Streptococcal Infections in the Newborn, S.O.G.C., No. 61, June 1997.
3. Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 7th Edition, ASM Press 1999.