

BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS PANEL SPECIMEN COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Background: Vaginal and urogenital sites are considered contaminated and may include normal flora species, so a positive test result does not automatically indicate an infection. Diagnosis must be clinically correlated based on physical characteristics, erythema, pain, heat, exudate & odor.

Proper technique for obtaining a specimen is crucial to avoid false negative or positive results. Obtain a sample before initiation of antibiotics or antimicrobials if possible. Lidocaine or other topical agents may cause PCR inhibition. Interpret results and Antibiotic Resistance Genes based on clinical history and treatments.

BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS PANEL PROCEDURE

1. Wash hands, apply gloves, obtain sample supplies
2. Using the provided moist towelette, wipe excessive amount of secretion from the vaginal area
3. Remove soiled gloves and cleanse with hand sanitizer.
Apply new sterile gloves
4. Obtain the PGL provided Sample Tube 1. Nylon Swab in Liquid Amies Media OR 2. Urine tube with boric acid preservative
5. **For Swab:** While in a comfortable position (seated or standing), without touching the outer folds of the vagina, carefully insert the swab into the vagina about 2 inches (5 cm) and gently rotate the swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure the swab touches the vaginal walls to absorb fluids
6. Insert a swab into the sterile sample tube with Liquid Amies Media
7. **For Urine:** Collect First Void Urine (if able) in provided vacutainer and transfer it to the urine tube.
8. Properly label the specimen with the Patient's Full Name, and DOB, (+additional unique identifier if available)
9. Complete the lab requisition or electronic document, including wound site, time the specimen was collected
10. Send the specimen to the PGL lab the same day. If the specimen can be refrigerated, due so after specimen collection. PGL will process BV Samples within a 24-hour timeframe.

Stability: Swab + Liquid Amies: Once a swab sample is collected, place it immediately into the Eswab transport tube, which comes into contact with the transport medium.

Submit samples to the laboratory, preferably same day, to maintain optimum sample integrity and viability.

Store at room temperature (20 – 25°C) or 4 – 8°C refrigerated if able.

Urine + Boric Acid: Once the urine (first void or first catch) is collected, transfer it from the vacutainer to the final urine tube (yellow or gray top). Submit samples to the laboratory, preferably same day, to maintain optimum sample integrity and viability. Store at room temperature (20 – 25°C) or 4 – 8°C refrigerated if able.

PGL laboratories can process samples within a seven-day time frame but request 24-48 hours from collection to ensure faster patient results and optimum sample viability.

To request additional supplies or questions or a courier pickup, contact Customer Support at 855-482-3598.