

STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Collection of Rectal and Pharyngeal Specimens for CT/GC APTIMA testing

Specimens are collected using the Gen-Probe APTIMA Combo2 Unisex Swab Collection Kit (same kits as for endocervical or urethral swab collection).

Kits are stored at room temperature.

Rectal Swab Collection

1. Gather collection materials and use the small APTIMA testing swab, **not** the larger cleansing swab.
2. Insert the swab approximately 3 – 5 cm into the rectum and rotate against the rectal wall several times (at least 3 times).
3. Swabs that are grossly contaminated with feces should be discarded and the collection repeated.
4. Carefully remove the swab, and insert the swab into the APTIMA transport tube.
5. Break off the swab at the score line, and cap the tube tightly.
6. Label the tube with the patient's name and date of collection.
7. Complete the requisition form; be sure to record the specimen source.

Throat Swab Collection

1. Gather collection materials and use the small APTIMA testing swab, **not** the larger cleansing swab.
2. Using a tongue depressor, insert the swab and vigorously rub the tonsils and the posterior pharynx.
3. Carefully remove the swab, not touching any area of the mouth.
4. Insert the swab into the APTIMA transport tube and break off the swab at the score line.
5. Cap the tube tightly; label the tube with the patient's name and date of collection.
6. Complete the requisition form; be sure to record the specimen source.

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