Swab Chart September 2023

		Description	Swab/Kit Name	Shaft	Transport Medium	Comments	TEST					SITES									
							Bacterial	Virus NAAT	Pertussis NAAT	STI Molecular Panel	Herpes (skin)	Sterile sites	Wounds / Skin	Low nose	Naso-pharynx	Throat	Conjunctival	Ear	Vaginal	Urethral	Cervix, Rectal / STI
White Screw Top Tube		General purpose **bacterial culture** swab (including MDRO screens – MRSA, ESBL, CPE, VRE)	Copan eSwab or Puritan Opti-Swab	Rigid snap-able	Liquid Amies Medium	* Use **green** BD tube for STI molecular (chlamydia, gonorrhoea, trichomonas NAAT)	Y					ASPIRATES OR TISSUE SAMPLES PREFERABLE	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y *
Orange Screw Top Tube		Small swab for **ears, eyes bacterial culture** (and urethral for gonorrhoea culture)	Copan 481CE	Flexible snap-able	Liquid Amies Medium	* Use **green** BD tube for chlamydia & gonorrhoea NAAT	Y										Y	Y		Y *	
Viral or Universal transport media tube (VTM), (UTM) variety of colours (Purple, Red, Green)		**Viral testing- MUST** specify virus to test for (Molecular testing only)	**Standard** flocked swab	Rigid snap-able	Liquid medium, VTM or UTM	Skin and oral swabs (e.g. HSV, VZV, Mpox)		Y			Y			Y		Y	Y				
			Flexible flocked swab	Fine flexible snap-able **Use for naso-pharyngeal**	Liquid medium, VTM or UTM	Influenza/RSV/ Measles/Pertussis MUST be naso-pharyngeal swab, (nose &/or throat swab NOT suitable).		Y	Y					Y	Y		Y				
Green Screw Top Tube*		**Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea NAAT**, & genital sites **Trichomonas NAAT**	BD Swab collection kit	Rigid snap-able	Buffer	Recommended specimen: Female – vaginal or cervical swab Male – first catch urine				Y						Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Yellow Screw Top Tube		**Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea,** & **Trichomonas NAAT**	BD Urine transport kit	Transfer pipette	Urine preservative					Y										Y	
Pink Screw Top Tube		**HPV Vaginal Screening swab**	HPV swab collection kit	Rigid snap-able	Buffer	HPV vaginal primary screening **only**		Y											Y		

STI Molecular Panel = Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea/Trichomonas NAAT = Nucleic acid amplification test (molecular) VTM = Viral Transport Medium UTM = Universal Transport Medium