### CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS AND NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE DETECTION  
(NOT Sexual Health Service patients)

**Tests:** Molecular (NAAT) Tests for CT/GC

**Related investigations:** Eye Chlamydia Investigations; Neisseria gonorrhoeae Culture, Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae Detection (Sexual Health Services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen type</th>
<th>Swab: Endocervical/Cervical, Urethral, Vaginal, Vulvo-vaginal swab (clinician or self-taken), Eye Swab, Rectal Swab, Throat</th>
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</table>
| **Container** | • Endocervical/Cervical Swab – BD ProbeTec Qx Collection Kit for Endocervical or Lesion Specimens (Pink Shaft)  
• Urethral Swab – Male Urethral Specimen Collection Kit for the BD ProbeTec™ (Blue Shaft)  
• Vaginal Swab (clinician or self-taken) – Vaginal Specimen Transport for the BD ProbeTec™ Qx (Purple Shaft)  
• Vulvo-vaginal swab (clinician or self-taken) – Vaginal Specimen Transport for the BD ProbeTec™ Qx (Purple Shaft)  
• Eye/Rectal/Throat swab - Vaginal Specimen Transport for the BD ProbeTec™ Qx (Purple Shaft)  
• Urine – Sterile, plastic, preservative-free specimen container/universal |
| **Volume / quantity requirements** | • Urine - Patient should collect first 10-20 ml of voided urine into collection container. |
| **Optimal time and method of collection** | • Use aseptic technique  
• Prior to starting antibiotics where possible  
• Place the swab into the transport medium immediately after swabbing |
| **Transportation** | • Place the labelled swab/urine inside a sealed plastic bag attached to a correctly filled in microbiology request form.  
• Transport the specimen to the Microbiology Department at UHND as soon as possible  
• For general transportation information refer to the transport page. |
| **Storage** | • Endocervical/Cervical/Urethral – 2-30°C for up to 30 days  
• Vaginal/vulvovaginal swabs (prior to being expressed into diluent) - 2-30°C for up to 14 days  
• Urine – Stored 9-30°C must be processed within 30 hours post collection  
• Urine – Stored 2-8°C must be processed within 7 days post collection |
| **Special considerations and limitations** | • The collection media associated with this test is hazardous and the swabs should never be pre-moistened  
• Urine – Patient must not urinate for at least 1 hour prior to specimen collection  
• Neisseria gonorrhoea testing is only carried out for GUM/CASH clinic patients and on special request – This must be discussed with the laboratory directly. Requests made on the microbiology request form with NOT be processed without prior discussion |
| **Relevant clinical information** | • State if the patient is pregnant  
• Please include details of recent, current or proposed antibiotic therapy  
• Please Note: This test is not validated for patients under 17 years old, pregnant patients, rectal and eye swabs and medico-legal cases. All tests will be processed with an associated comment. |
| **Consent information** | Healthcare professionals: follow local procedures for obtaining consent from patients |
| **Biological reference intervals and clinical decision values** | Reported as:  
• ‘Chlamydia trachomatis detected’ or ‘Chlamydia trachomatis not detected’  
• ‘Neisseria gonorrhoea detected’ or ‘Neisseria gonorrhoeae not detected’ |
| **Availability of testing** | Chlamydia/GC NAAT specimens are processed 5 days per week (Mon-Fri) 9am – 5.30pm. Urgent requests are not applicable for this investigation. |
| **Measured turnaround time** | Refer to the Microbiology Turnaround Times page for current information. |
| **Information for patients** | Information on this page is intended for clinical staff. Please refer to your healthcare professional if you have any queries regarding your test or visit the NHS Choices website (www.nhs.uk). |