Specimen Collection Guide
The container will keep bacterial colony counts constant during transport to the lab. It is for urine culture only. **Transport refrigerated. Stable for 72 hours.**

Supply #1838
Culture, Urine Routine Test # 704705
Culture, Urine Catheterized Test # 4647

**Urinalysis**
Urinalysis Transport Tubes are stable for 72 hours from collection. **Transport refrigerated.** If ordering a Urogram w/Reflex to Culture, be sure to submit appropriate specimen. See ‘Urine Culture’ section above.

Supply Numbers:
Stockwell Urinalysis Transport Tube #20108
pipette, transfer w/graduations #24196

Urogram
Urogram w/Relex to Culture
Urogram w/Relex to Culture (OB)
Urogram w/Relex to Microscopic
Urogram w/Relex to Microscopic &/or Culture
Urogram w/Relex to Microscopic &/or Culture (OB)

Test # 3305
Test # 23305
Test # 33305
Test # 3300
Test # 43305
Test # 53305

**Ova & Parasite**
These pink and gray Para-Pak vials are used for ova and parasite testing. Place stool into each vial until the red fill-line is reached and mix well to ensure preservation. Both vials must be submitted for the O&P exam. Giardia antigen may also be ordered separately. Cryptosporidium, Microsporidium, and Cyclospora examinations may be performed from a Para-Pak formalin vial, but must be ordered separately. Leave specimens at **room temperature.** Raw stool sample is unacceptable.

Supply #6076
O&P (X1) Test # 4792
O&P (X2) Test # 74028
Giardia/Cryptosporidium Exam Test # 900007
Giardia Antigen Test # 15335
Microsporidia Exam Test # 3880
Cyclospora/Cystoisospora Test # 4644

**Sterile Containers**
Sterile fluids, tissues and sputum for culture, and stool samples for Clostridium difficile toxin assay may be submitted in this container. Nails, skin, scrapings and hair may be submitted for mycology studies. Specimens for mycobacterium (AFB) culture may be sent in these containers. Please refrigerate and bag specimens for AFB culture immediately after collection.

Supply Numbers:
Sterile Urine Cups #1789
Sterile Urine Bags (Pediatric) #938

**Stool Culture**
This transport media is designed to keep enteric pathogens viable during transport to the lab. Place stool into orange capped Para-Pak vial until red fill-line is reached and mix well to ensure preservation. Yersinia and Vibrio culture must be requested separately. Leave at **room temperature** until lab pick-up. Raw stool sample is unacceptable.

Supply #983
Culture, Stool (Salm, Shi, Camp, Shiga) Test # 803107
Culture, Yersinia Test # 4660
Culture, Vibrio Test # 4058

**Pinworm**
The pinworm paddle or “swube” will capture eggs of Enterobius Vermicularis (pinworm) for microscope examination and subsequent identification. The sticky side of the paddle should be pressed to the perinal folds. Do not insert paddle into the anus. So not cover paddle with stool. Place the paddle back into the plastic tube, cap tightly and leave at **room temperature** until laboratory pick-up.

Supply #1816
Pinworm Exam Test # 4620

*Expired media will not be tested*

1.1 **Collection Kits and Devices**
1.2 Collection Kits and Devices

**Anaerobic Cultures and Deep Wound Cultures**
Transport medium for tissue, pus, aspirates, and deep wound cultures for anaerobes. Tissues, fluids and swabs for aerobic culture may also be transported in this transport medium. A gram stain is included. **Transport at room temperature.**

- Supply #1806
- Wound Culture Anaerobic/Aerobic Test # 4763
- Tissue Culture Anaerobic/Aerobic Test #4180
- Body Fluid Culture Anaerobic/Aerobic Test # 4003
- Source must be indicated on the requisition

**Bordetella, DFA**
(Includes B. pertussis and B. parapertussis)
Submit 2 air dried slides at room temperature utilizing the Nasopharyngeal Swab. Write patient’s name on the frosted side of the slides. DFA cannot be performed from specimen submitted in Regan-Lowe Media

- Supply Numbers:
  - Bordetella Slides #6494
  - Nasopharyngeal Swab #22564
  - Cardboard Slide Holder #2490
  - Bordetella, DFA Test # 15053

**Bordetella Culture**
(Includes B. pertussis and B. parapertussis)
Submit 1 nasopharyngeal swab in Regan Lowe Charcoal media. **Refrigerate** before and after specimen collection.

- Supply Numbers:
  - Regan Lowe Media #6180
  - Nasopharyngeal Swab #22564
  - Bordetella Culture Test # 4274

**Bordetella DNA, Qualitative, PCR**
(Includes B. pertussis and B. parapertussis)
Mini-tip Swab with Liquid Amies. **Transport refrigerated.**

- Supply #19221
- B. pertussis/parapertussis DNA Test # 901552

**Rapid Strep Tests**
2-Swab collection device with Liquid Amies. **Transport at room temperature.**

- Supply #10499
- Rapid Strep w/ Culture Reflex Test # 74119
- Source must be indicated on the requisition

**eSwab - White-Cap Routine Culture Swab**
These culture swabs are designed for routine bacterial cultures and provide a greater recovery of organisms for culture than previously supplied swabs. Specify SOURCE on requisition and keep at room temperature after collection. Rapid Strep cannot be tested from these culture swabs.

Note that the preferred sample for any culture is tissue, fluid, or pus. Large/moderate amounts of tissue and adequate volumes of pus or fluid should be submitted in a sterile container. Small pieces of tissue and low volumes of sterile body fluids should be submitted in supply #1806 - Anaerobic Transport Tube.

- Supply Numbers:
  - Regan Lowe Media #6180
  - Nasopharyngeal Swab #22564
  - Bordetella Culture Test # 4274
  - Bordetella, DFA Test #15053

**eSwab - Blue-Cap Mini-Tip Culture Swab**
These culture swabs provide a greater recovery of organisms for culture than previously supplied swabs. Specify SOURCE on requisition and keep at room temperature after collection.

- Supply #25785
- Culture, Nasopharyngeal Test # 4618
- Culture, Genital Urethral Test # 704713

**SPS Vacutainer (Blood Culture Tubes)**
Allow tubes to fill completely. Submit 2 tubes per culture. **Transport at room temperature.**

- 8.3 mL tube, Supply #2827
  - Culture, Blood (X1) Test # 4040
  - Culture, Blood (X2) Test # 800006
  - Culture, Blood (X3) Test # 800007

*Expired media will not be tested*
**InSure®, Fecal Immunochemical Test**
Refer to the instructions provided with the collections kit for sample collection and handling.

**Transport at room temperature.** A Sonora Quest Laboratories requisition must be included when submitting samples to the lab.

Supply #18067
InSure® Screening Test #11293
InSure® Diagnostic Test #11290

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**Virus Culture**
**(Including Herpes & Chlamydia)**

This multipurpose transport medium is designed to maintain viability of viruses and chlamydia for culture. Please submit separate tubes for each test code ordered. When submitting for chlamydia culture, do not use swabs with wooden shafts, use a rayon / dacron swab.

**Refrigerate** after specimen collection. Cannot be used for bacterial, fungal, AFB, or HPV cultures.

Supply Numbers:
- Viro Pak – Lesion, Genital, Throat (large swab) #20011
- Viro Pak – Nasopharyngeal (small swab) #20012

- Herpes Culture with rfx Typing
- Herpes Culture, Rapid
- Influenza A & B, Rapid Screen
- Influenza A/B and RSV, Qual., Real-Time RT-PCR
- Mycoplasma/Unreaplasma Culture
- RSV Direct Stain (DFA)
- RSV Rapid
- Virus Culture, Respiratory & DFA
- Virus Culture, Varicella zoster/Herpes simplex & DFA

**Source must be indicated on the requisition.**

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**QuantiFERON® TB Gold Plus**

Supply #38933
If > 3350 ft. elevation, order High Elevation Tubes - Supply #38934
Test #906935

Tubes must be collected in the order indicated below. Each tube must contain 0.8 – 1.2 mL of blood. Shake tubes up and down ten (10) times just firmly enough to ensure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood. Submit to lab ASAP for incubation and specimen processing.

Samples must be received within 12 hours of collection and incubated within 16 hours of collection. **DO NOT CENTRIFUGE. Transport at room temperature.**

Statewide: Do not collect on Sundays
If in rural area, only collect Monday – Friday after 11 a.m.

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**T-Spot.TB**

**One room temperature 9 mL Green-Tap for T-Spot tube. Except where noted below, collect ONLY Monday – Friday after 10 a.m. No holiday or weekend draws.**

Do not spin or centrifuge samples. Do not refrigerate or freeze. Place sample in separate bag and apply the neon green T-Spot label provided with your tubes to the outside of the specimen transport bag or tube. Lockbox use is not recommended, however, if necessary, configure the ice packs in an a-frame or lean-to formation.

Supply #38235
T-Spot.TB Test #906927

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**H. pylori: Breath Kit**

Refer to the instructions provided with the kit for patient preparation and collection. Note that this test is not available for patients under 3 years of age. **Transport at room temperature.**

Supply #19846
H. pylori Urea Breath Test Test #902147
H. pylori Urea Breath Test - Pediatric Test #906542

Stool testing also available.
H. pylori Stool Collection Kit, Supply #19222

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*Expired media will not be tested*

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**Collection Kits and Devices**

1.3
1.4 Collection Kits and Devices

**GC Screen Culture – Charcoal Transport**
Supply Numbers: Culture Swab (GC Only) #4590
Gonopak (GC Plate) #2181

**GC Screen**
Test # 4785 (Transport at room temperature)

**Fetal Fibronectin**
Refer to the instructions provided with the kit for collection and handling. **Transport at room temperature.**

Supply #8617
Fetal Fibronectin Test
Test # 11986

**Wet Mount/Trichomonas Culture**
Trichosel Broth - Use Dacron Swab. **Transport at room temperature.**
Supply #10618; Dacron Swab #1848

Culture, Trichomonas
Test # 5575
Wet Mount/Prep Exam
Test # 704002

**Aptima® Specimen Collection Kits (Transport at room temperature)**

**Combo 2® Unisex Collection Kit** (Female Endocervical; Male Urethral)
Supply #22127

**Important Notes:**
- The polyester fiber-tipped swab with the white shaft is for cleaning the cervical os **ONLY. DO NOT** use for collecting the patient specimen.
- The shaft of the blue collection swab **MUST** be broken at the score mark.
- Specimens containing no collection swab, any swab other than the supplied blue collection swab, cleaning swab, or an incorrectly broken shaft cannot be tested.

**Urine Collection Kit** (comes with pipette) - Supply #20122

**Important Notes:**
- Patient should not have urinated for at least one hour prior to specimen collection.
- Direct patient to provide a FIRST-CATCH urine (20-30 mL) into a preservative-free collection cup.
- Transfer 2 mL of urine into the transport tube using the pipette provided.

**Multitest Swab Collection Kit** - Supply #34893

**Important Note:**
- The shaft of the pink collection swab **MUST** be broken at the score mark.

**Fetal Fibronectin Test**

Fill tube between the black lines to prevent sample rejection.

**All Aptima kits listed above are acceptable for Chlamydia/N. gonorrhoeae and T. vaginalis testing.**

- Chlamydia trachomatis, Aptima Device
  Test # 903150
- N. gonorrhoeae, Aptima Device
  Test # 903151
- Chlamydia/N. gonorrhoeae, Aptima Device
  Test # 904767
- T. vaginalis, Aptima Device
  Test # 904768
- SureSwab®, Vaginosis/Vaginitis Plus
  Test # 704763
- SureSwab®, BV DNA QT, RT-PCR
  Test # 904765
- SureSwab®, Candidiasis, PCR
  Test # 904766
- SureSwab®, HSV-1/2
  Test # 905434

* Expired media will not be tested *
ThinPrep®
Refer to the instructions provided with the collection kit for sample collection and handling. **Transport at room temperature.**

Supply Numbers:
ThinPrep® Vials w/Brushes/Spatulas (Kit of 25) #25777
ThinPrep Vials® w/Brooms (Kit of 25) #25778

Tests Available:
- Age Based Screening
- Pap, ThinPrep
- HPV mRNA
- HPV Genotypes 16, 18/45
- Chlamydia trachomatis, ThinPrep® Vial
- N. gonorrhoeae, ThinPrep® Vial
- Chlamydia trachomatis/N. gonorrhoeae, ThinPrep® Vial
- T. vaginalis, ThinPrep® Vial

A wide variety of reflex testing is available on the ThinPrep® Vial. Please contact your Account Manager or visit SonoraQuest.com for a comprehensive listing.

UroCyte (UroVysion) Collection Kit
Preserves urine specimens for cytological examination to determine bladder cancer recurrence.

Refer to the “Instructions For Use” included with the collection kit for specimen collection. **Transport refrigerated.**

Supply #19343
FISH: Vysis® UroVysion, Bladder Test # 3462

QNatal Black/Tan-Top Streck Cell Free Tubes (2 per pack)
For use with QNatal Advanced Non-Invasive Prenatal testing ONLY. **Transport at room temperature.**

Supply #2785

QNatal™ Advanced Noninvasive Prenatal Screening (NIPS) Test # 906553

BV/V Kit (Affirm VP II)
Refer to the package insert or Sonora Quest Laboratories’ online Test Directory at SonoraQuest.com for collection instructions. **Transport at room temperature.**

Supply #19674
Bacterial Vaginosis/Vaginitis Test # 902043

1.5 Collection Kits and Devices
### Processing Tubes

The vacuum blood collection tube does not fill completely to the stopper, but only to the required level. Proper dilution of the blood and additive in the tube is critical. Be sure that each tube is allowed to fill until the blood flow stops. If unsure, wait an additional 1-2 seconds before removing the tube from the holder and withdrawing the needle from the arm. Improperly filled tubes will be rejected by the laboratory, and the sample must be redrawn to ensure accurate results.

REMEMBER: Always check the expiration date on tubes prior to collection. Expired tubes will NOT be processed by the laboratory, and the sample must be redrawn to ensure accurate results.

### WHY?

- Most tubes contain an **ADDITIVE** or **CLOT ACTIVATOR** that needs to be mixed with the blood sample.
- Tubes with anticoagulants such as EDTA need to be mixed to ensure the specimen does not clot.

### HOW?

- Holding tube upright, gently invert 180° and back.
- Repeat movement as prescribed for each tube.

### WHEN?

- Immediately after drawing.

### CONSEQUENCES IF NOT MIXED —

- Tubes with anticoagulants will clot.
- SST tubes may not clot completely.
- Specimen will often need to be redrawn.

### Table: Processing Tubes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORDER OF DRAW</th>
<th>MIX BY INVERTING</th>
<th>ADDITIVE</th>
<th>EFFECTS OF UNDER-FILLING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>0.105M Sodium Citrate (3.2%)</td>
<td>Reduce the recovery of microorganisms that could potentially be lethal to the patient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Gel Barrier Tube</td>
<td>Poor barrier formation; insufficient sample.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Sodium Heparin</td>
<td>Excessive results due to excessive hirpin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Liquid K₃ EDTA</td>
<td>Excessively low blood cell counts and hematocrits; staining alterations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Spray-dried K₂ EDTA (Plus)</td>
<td>Excessively low blood cell counts and hematocrits; staining alterations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Sodium Fluoride</td>
<td>Clotting of specimen.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 TIMES</td>
<td>Acid Citrate Dextrose (ACD)</td>
<td>Erroneous results due to changes in cell morphology.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Do Not Use For Blood Cultures)
Labeling Specimens

Important reminder: 2 identifiers needed on all specimen tubes and containers, including liquid based PAP Vials and Biopsy Bottles.

Per College of American Pathologist (CAP) regulations ANP.11460, CYP.03300 and Gen.40491, all primary specimen containers (the innermost container submitted to Sonora Quest Laboratories that contains the specimen to be tested) MUST be labeled with two patient identifiers.

Patient identifiers include (in order of preference) but are not limited to:
- Patient Name (First and Last)
- Requisition Number or Bar Code Label
- Patient Date of Birth
- Unique Patient Identifier

Patient indentifiers on the specimen container and the laboratory order form must match in order for the specimen to be processed. Please make sure to include the date and time of draw directly on the specimens for timed testing. Patient identifiers on specimen bags do not satisfy CAP requirements and cannot be used by Sonora Quest Laboratories.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring that CAP requirements are being met.
Specimen Integrity
An unspun or poorly spun specimen allows the cells to come into contact with the serum or plasma. Metabolic changes occur until the specimen is properly spun. Delay in processing changes the composition of the specimen and could cause erroneous values.

Centrifuge Operation
3000 RPM is the common speed under most circumstances. The majority of samples require 10 – 15 minutes of centrifugation.

Pipette Technique
A pipette is used to remove the serum or plasma after a specimen has been spun.

When using a pipette, be cautious not to disturb the red cells. If the red cells are disturbed, re-spin the specimen and begin pipette process again.

Transfer the serum or plasma from the pipette into the transport vial and cap the vial. Store sample at the appropriate temperature as indicated for the testing requested.

Send ONLY the transport vial to the laboratory for testing. DO NOT send the original tube.

Pour Technique
Slowly pour the required amount of serum into the transport vial and cap the vial. Store sample at the appropriate temperature as indicated for the testing requested. Do not pour a sample without a gel barrier into a specimen transport vial.

Using the pipette technique is the appropriate method to remove serum or plasma from a non-gel barrier tube. Send ONLY the transport vial to the laboratory for testing. DO NOT send the original tube.
Frozen Samples

- **DO NOT FREEZE GLASS TUBES!**

- Never leave frozen samples in your lock box unless they are stored in Sonora Quest Laboratories ConstanTemp Frozen Specimen Totes. These totes can be requested by contacting our Logistics Department at 602.685.5052 or 520.886.8101. However, to ensure specimen stability, it is recommended that frozen samples be stored frozen in your office for pick up on the following business day rather than being left in a lock box.

- Make sure frozen samples are labeled with the patient name and a second identifier, date drawn, sample type (serum, plasma, etc.), and, if timed testing, label each sample with collection times (fasting, 30 minutes, etc.).

- Check specimen requirements to see if serum or plasma needs to be aliquotted into a plastic vial prior to freezing.

Submission of Laboratory Orders

All tests submitted under a single order number are required to be collected on the same day, which is considered the date of service by government payors. Order numbers may not be used more than one time. Please use the following guide to assist in the ordering process used by your office:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF</th>
<th>THEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All samples are to be collected in your office on the same day</td>
<td>Submit all testing requested under a single order number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only some of the samples will be collected in your office on the same day, and the patient will have the remainder collected by a Patient Service Center or other facility</td>
<td>Submit using 2 order numbers - 1 for the samples being collected in your office and 1 for the samples to be collected at a later time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the samples will be collected in your office - patient is being sent to a Patient Service Center</td>
<td>Submit the testing requested under a single order number; if any samples are unable to be collected (urine, fasting, etc.), they will be assigned a separate order number by the Patient Service Center staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that orders received by the laboratory that do not include all necessary samples for the testing requested will be managed using the following process:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF</th>
<th>THEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A single order is received and only some of the samples are submitted to the laboratory</td>
<td>The order will be held open until all samples for the day are processed; if all samples are not received, the tests with no samples will be cancelled with the notation of “no sample received”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samples from the example above are sent to the laboratory after the initial order has reported and the testing was cancelled</td>
<td>A new order will be created using the provided collection date; testing will be performed and reported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>