

Genito-Urinary System

Laboratory Practical 2

Specimen collection methods used
in sexually transmitted diseases



■ Principles followed in collecting samples:

1. Communication with laboratory staff to discuss collection, transport and testing.
2. wearing appropriate protective gear.
3. Avoid contamination
4. Adequate volumes
5. labeled correctly
6. Optimal transport conditions



■ The common lab. diagnostic procedures:

1. Dark-field microscopy-Syphilis
2. Gram staining for gonorrhea, non-gonococcal urethritis, chancroid, bacterial vaginosis
3. Tzanck smear for Herpes genitalis,
4. Wet mount for trichomoniasis
5. KOH wet mount for candidiasis



Specimen collection methods used in sexually transmitted diseases:

(A) Gonorrhea

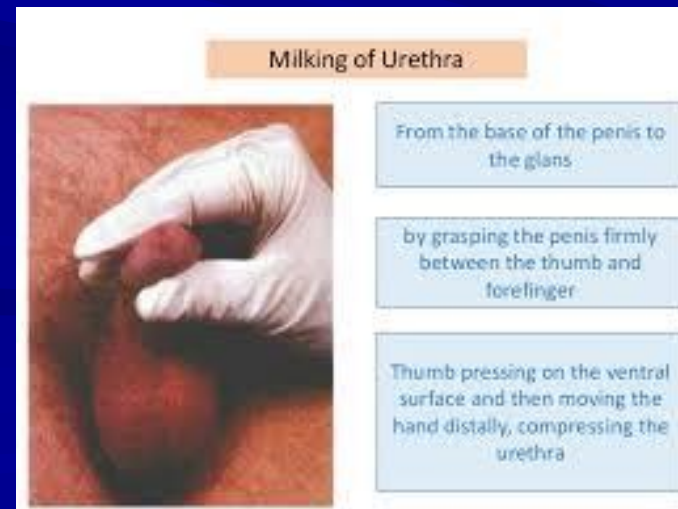
■ *In men*

a) Urethral swab

- Collect specimen at least 2 hours after urination as voiding decreases the amount of exudates.
- Retract the prepuce, clean the tip of the meatus with normal saline and collect the pus directly onto a glass slide or sterile swab in case of frank urethral discharge.



- If no urethral discharge is seen, milk / strip the urethra from the root of the penis to the glans and collect the discharge as above.
- If no discharge is obtained, insert a sterile cotton tipped swab with a flexible wire shaft or a bacteriological loop 2-3 cm into the urethra and rotate for 5-10 seconds.



If there is no evidence of urethritis on examination, but there is a history of contact, ask the patient to hold the urine overnight and then milk / strip the urethra and collect the discharge if any. If no discharge is obtained, insert a swab and collect specimen.



■ ***In women***

a) Endocervical swab

- No antiseptics, analgesics or lubricants should be applied.
- A sterile vaginal speculum moistened with warm water is inserted in the vagina and the ectocervix is visualized.

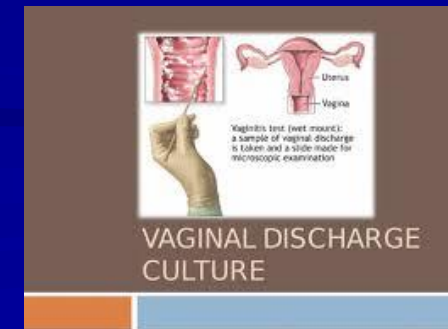


- After cleaning the ectocervix using forceps with a sterile cotton swab, insert a sterile swab 2-3 cm into the endocervical canal, rotate and move from side to side for 5-10 seconds and withdraw.
- **b) Urethral swab**
Same method as for men, except that the urethra is massaged against the pubic symphysis from its proximal end towards the meatus if no pus is visible.



■ c) Vaginal swab

- Vaginal swab or vaginal tampon may be used to obtain the specimen.
- Using a speculum, swab the posterior fornix with a sterile swab in women.



Schistosomiasis

Diagnostic Stage by Morphology

mansoni



-Lateral spine

haematobium



-Central spine

japonicum



T. vaginalis

