Patient Collection of APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimens*

Wash hands before starting. If you have any questions about this procedure, please ask your doctor, nurse, or care provider.

1. Partially peel open swab package. Do not touch soft tip or lay swab down. If soft tip is touched, swab is laid down, or swab is dropped, request new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.

2. Remove swab.

3. Hold swab as shown in Diagram 1, placing thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft.

4. Carefully insert swab into the inside opening of the vagina, about two inches (as shown in Diagram 2), and gently rotate swab for 10 to 30 seconds. Make sure swab touches the walls of the vagina so that moisture is absorbed by swab.

5. Withdraw swab without touching skin.

6. While holding swab in same hand, unscrew the tube cap. Do not spill tube contents. If tube contents are spilled, request new APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit.

7. Immediately place swab into transport tube so that the tip of the swab is visible below tube label.

8. Carefully break swab shaft at the score line against the side of the tube as shown in Diagram 3.

9. Tightly screw cap onto tube as shown in Diagram 4. Return tube as instructed by care provider.

* Clinicians should refer to instructions for use provided on the APTIMA Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Kit (Catalog #1162).