

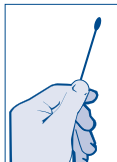


Vaginal swab collection – self collection

Please follow these instructions carefully to ensure your test results are accurate and reliable.

Please note: If you do not want to collect your own vaginal swab, you may attend any Melbourne Pathology collection centre and the staff will perform this test for you.

1. Obtain a swab from your doctor or nearest Melbourne Pathology collection centre and label the swab tube with your full name, date of birth, date and time of collection and 'vaginal swab'.
2. Take the swab out of the packet.
3. Do not touch the cotton end with your fingers.
4. Put the tip of the cotton swab stick about 2cm (length of one finger joint) inside your vagina.
5. Turn the swab around once. Leave the swab in the vagina and count to 10.
6. Remove the swab from your vagina.



7. Remove the cap from the sterile tube.
8. Place the swab into the tube and ensure the cap fits firmly.
9. Place the tube into the specimen bag (if provided) and deliver to your nearest Melbourne Pathology collection centre on the same day that you collect it.

Note: If self-collecting a swab for **Group B Strep (GBS) test**, a rectal swab is **also** required. Insert a fresh swab 1 – 2cm into the anus, rotate it, then remove and place it into a separate tube. The tube must be labelled with your name and 'rectal swab'.