

**Department of Microbiology Maidstone Hospital 01622 - 224040/4041**

Routine Sample Collection (PCR) for the Detection of:

***Chlamydia trachomatis***

 This pack consists of **either**: a) Male Urine sample packet (yellow instruction label)  
**or** b) Female swab sample packet (pink brush strip on label)

Please return all materials in the plastic bag provided.

Once in yellow tube stable at room temperature for up to 90 days

Specimen Site	Specimen container
<u>Genital – Male</u>	Cobas male packet (yellow instruction)
Urine (patient must <b>not</b> have voided within the previous 1 hour). First catch preferable.	Urinate into either white top universal or plastic cup or similar. Decant or pipette into yellow top tube (provided) between the indicated lines.
<u>Genital – Female</u>	Cobas female packet (pink brush strip on instruction)
Endocervical	Cobas female swab packet.
Conjunctival – see below	

The Cobas kit is for Chlamydia. Please use separate viral transport medium (green lid swab) swab kit for Virology. If both tests are required, please use two separate sample kits. (Take Chlamydia specimen first).

**SWAB SAMPLING** (see table for male urines)

**Cervical specimens:**

1. Use one of the swabs (provided), remove excess mucus from the cervical os and surrounding mucosa. Discard the swab.
2. Insert the other swab into the endocervical canal until most of the swab tip is no longer visible.
3. Gently rotate the swab 5 times in one direction in the endocervical canal.
4. Carefully withdraw the swab and place in Cobas tube (yellow) media – break swab shaft at visible dark line in swab shaft.

**Conjunctival specimens**

1. Specimens must be taken **before** the use of fluorescein dye
2. Superficial pus should be removed with a normal swab. This may be placed in a transport swab sent to Microbiology for bacteriological examination. A slide for Gram staining can be made here.
3. Using the sampling swab, firmly stroke the whole area of the upper and lower lid palpebral conjunctivas to remove epithelial cells.
4. Place in Cobas tube (yellow) media – break swab shaft at visible mark.



Male

Female

Samples should be collected only from symptomatic patients

1. Insert large Dacron swab approximately 3 cm into anal canal
2. Move swab from side to side to sample crypts
3. Withdraw swab. If faecal contamination occurs, discard swab and obtain another specimen.
4. Then place in Cobas tube (yellow) media – break swab shaft at mark.