

## Blanchard Valley Health System Laboratory Services

Blanchard Valley Hospital 1900 South Main Street Findlay, OH 45840  
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### Affirm VP III Specimen Collection and Transportation (LTR27563)

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**Attention: Printed copies MAY NOT be the most current information. Please consult the Lab QMS for the current version.**

### Affirm VP III

(Rapid Direct DNA Probe for Gardnerella, Trichomonas, and Candida)  
SPECIMEN COLLECTION, STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION :

#### Specimen Collection

Specimen collection is a critical step. Personnel collecting vaginal fluid specimens should be well-trained to minimize the possibility of inadequate specimens. For specimen collection, use only the Affirm VP III Ambient Temperature Transport System, the Affirm VP III Sample Collection Set or the swabs provided in the Affirm VP III Microbial Identification Test Kit. *Separate swabs should be used for other tests, e.g. culture or microscopic slide samples.*

#### **BD Affirm VP III Ambient Temperature Transport System for EXTENDED TIME:**

ATTS should be **used with those specimens where transport times are expected to exceed 1 h at ambient temperature (15 – 30°C) or 4 h at refrigerated temperatures (2 – 8°C).**

ATTS is designed to stabilize the nucleic acid of *Candida* species, *Gardnerella vaginalis*, and *Trichomonas vaginalis* during specimen transport at ambient temperature (15 – 30°C) for up to 72 h. This system has also been qualified for transport use at 2 – 8°C.

#### **B. Vaginal Collection with ATTS:**

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE: READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING.\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Preparation of Transport System and Collection of Vaginal Sample –**

All samples for use with the Affirm VP III Microbial Identification Test must be collected using the materials provided with this system.

1. Open the seal on outer plastic pouch of Affirm VP III Ambient Temperature Transport System and remove all components [each plastic pouch contains enough material for the collection and transport of one vaginal specimen].
2. Tear open the foil pouch and remove the ATTS Reagent Dropper.
3. Break ampule in ATTS Reagent Dropper by firmly squeezing vial with finger and thumb.

**CAUTION: Break ampule close to its center one time only. Do not manipulate dropper any further, as the plastic may puncture and injury may occur.**

4. Dispense reagent from ATTS Reagent Dropper into Sample Collection Tube.
5. Peel wrapper to expose patient swab. Remove swab. Discard wrapper.
6. Collect patient specimen/take sample.

- Place the patient in position for a pelvic examination. Insert an UNLUBRICATED speculum (WITHOUT JELLY OR WATER) into the vagina to permit visualization of the posterior vaginal fornix.  
- Using the sterile polyester-tip swab, obtain a sample from the posterior vaginal fornix. Twist or roll the swab against the vaginal wall two or three times, ensuring the entire circumference of the swab has touched the vaginal wall. Swab the lateral vaginal wall while removing the swab.

7. Immediately place the patient swab in the Sample Collection Tube containing the ATTS Reagent.
8. Break swab shaft at pre-scored line just above the top of the tube. Discard remaining shaft into an infectious waste container.
9. Place the Sample Collection Cap over the exposed end of the swab and firmly press the cap onto the Sample Collection Tube. The cap will 'snap' onto the tube when it is properly seated.
10. Label the Sample Collection Tube with patient/lab identification information.

Include date and time that sample was taken.

**Collection / Transport Kits are available from the BVH Laboratory.**

Please call 419-423-5318 – BVH Microbiology - for answers to your questions!