

Wound Panel Collection Method Specifications



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COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Collection of Flock Swabs

1. Open the draining wound and/or decubitus ulcers.
 - i. Cleanse and debride the wound with sterile gauze and 0.9 % sterile saline.
2. Place flock swab immediately into a sterile vial containing DTPM MTM transporting medium. If two samples are collected from the same patient, both swabs can be placed in the same vial.
 - i. Using the flocked tip of the specimen swab, wipe the wound base and margins.
 - ii. Gently turn the swab and allow it to absorb any visible secretions. Collect as much visible exudate as possible.
 - iii. Withdraw the swab carefully to avoid contamination.
 - iv. Place swab(s) into the sterile vial containing DTPM MTM transporting medium.
 - v. Break the swab at the scored line on the shaft. Discard the shaft.
 - vi. Recap the transport tube carefully to ensure that the cap seals tightly.
 - vii. Label the vial with the patient's first and last name, date of birth, the date and time the sample was collected, and the specimen type. Additional comments added.
 - vii. Aseptically, cut or break applicator sticks off near the tip to permit tightening of the cap. Avoid freezing specimen.
3. Loculated, palpable lesions
 - i. The surface of the wound/abscess should be carefully cleansed and debrided using sterile gauze and saline before attempting to aspirate the specimen.
 - ii. Aspirate the specimen using 0.5 ml sterile saline and place 0.2 mL of the aspirate directly into DTPM MTM transporting medium.
 - iii. Careful attention is required when collecting aspirate to ensure quantity is adequate while avoiding the collection of superficial flora.

****Keep patient samples at room temperature. Do Not Freeze patient sample.***

****Patient samples must be received at the laboratory within 72 hours of collection.***

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SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Confirm that the information on the completed Infectious Diseases Test Requisition Form matches the Swab Container.
2. Place the Swab container into the Biohazard Bag along with the Test Request Form
3. The specimen is now ready for shipment via FedEx or courier.
4. Label the vial with the patient's first and last name, date of birth, the date and time the sample was collected, and the specimen type. Additional comments may also be added (such as the specific site of the wound where the collection was performed).