Check Expiration date of all products prior to collection!

All specimens must have two patient-specific identifiers on the specimen label (labels can be provided by UCL). Include the source, initial of person collecting and date & time of collection.

Example of a specimen label provided by request:

Name: __________________________
ID#: ______________________ BD: __________
Dr: ______________________ Source: ________
D/T Collection: __________________________
Starswab - (pink topped swab with media filled tube)

Use to collection the following cultures:
- Wounds (Deep and Superficial)
- Anaerobe
- Eyes
- Vaginal/Cervical
- Urethral/Penile
- Gram Stains only
- Fungal (exception toe nails/skin scraping - submit nails/scrapings)
- Throat
- Acid Fast (TB) cultures (exception - sputums)
- Rectal Swabs for VRE (Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus)
- MRSA Culture (not the Rapid Screen PCR testing)

Keep at Room Temperature and transport to laboratory as soon as possible or within 24 hours of collection!
**MRSA Nasal Culture (not the Rapid PCR Screen)**

- Use Remel BactiSwab® NPG swab
  - Wire tipped swab with a clear fluid glass vial
  - After collection, break the glass vial to moisten the swab

**SP Polyester Fiber Tipped Applicator Swabs**

Use to collect the following:
- Rapid Strep Antigen Test
- 48 hour Strep Screen Culture
  
  Keep at room temperature until transport to lab!
**Copan® Swab** - (2 red topped swabs with a foam filled transport tube)

Use this swab only for **Rapid PCR Screen** with includes the following:
- MRSA Rapid Nasal Screen PCR
- Skin/Soft Tissue Screening for MRSA Skin/Soft Tissue PCR
- Rapid Beta Strep Grp B PCR from Vaginal/Rectal specimens

Keep swabs at room temperature until transport to lab!

**LIM Broths** - (red capped tube containing 3 ml of yellow clear fluid)
- Used for vaginal/rectal specimens for the detection of Group B Beta Streptococcus from pregnant women
  - Broths are refrigerated prior to collection -
  - allow to warm to room temperature
    - prior to placing swab in broth
  - Leave inoculated broth at room temperature.
  - DO NOT REFRIGERATE!
**Sterile Container** - (blue or orange screw cap container)

Used to collect the following:
- Urine Cultures (refrigerate immediately after collection)
- Clostridium difficile
- Fecal Neutrophils
- Tissue specimens (add sterile saline to tissue)
- Fluids or Aspirations
- Skin Scraping or Toe Nails for fungal culture
  Transport immediately to laboratory!

**Sputum Collection Containers** -
Use to collect sputums for the following:
- Sputum culture
- Acid Fast (TB) culture
- Fungal

Keep at room temperature until transport to laboratory!
**Para-Pak® Stool Culture Vial** -
(Orange- capped vial with pink liquid)
Use to collect the following:
  - Stool for Enteric pathogens  
    - Place stool in vial immediately after collection.
  - VRE (Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus)

Keep at room temperature until transport to laboratory!

**Para-Pak® Ova and Parasite Collection** -
(Blue and pink capped vials with clear liquid)

Use to collect the following:
  - Stool for Ova and Parasite Examination
  - Stool for Giardia/Cryptosporidia EIA testing  
    - Fill both vials!
    - Keep at room temperature until transport to laboratory!
Gen-Probe® Aptima Unisex Swab (Chlamydia/GC) - (small white capped tube with clear liquid)

Used for collection of endocervical and urethral specimens for Chlamydia and GC (Neisseria gonorrhoeae)
- Must use the blue tipped swab provided in package for collection
- Keep at room temperature until transport to laboratory!

Gen-Probe® Aptima Urine Specimen (Chlamydia/GC) - (small white capped tube with yellow label and clear liquid)

Used for collection of urine specimens for Chlamydia and GC (Neisseria gonorrhoeae)
- Tube must not be over or under filled - fill with urine between the two black indicator lines.
- Keep at room temperature until transport to laboratory!
**Pur-Wraps Sterile Foam Tipped Applicator Swabs** - (foam tipped for Influenza A and B antigen detection)

Used for collection of nasal specimens for Influenza testing
- Transport to laboratory as rapidly as possible!

**Nasopharyngeal Rayon or SP Polyester Fiber Tipped Applicator Swab** - (swab with a wire tip for collecting nasopharyngeal specimens for RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus))

Used to collect Nasopharyngeal specimens for RSV testing
- Nasal Washes are the preferred specimen for RSV detection
- Transport to laboratory as rapidly as possible!
**Herpes Simplex and Varicella Zoster DNA** (tube with a foam insert)
Use the BBL™CultureSwab™ for collection -
- AKA: Viral Culture Transport Swab
- Refrigerate swab after collection

**Sterile Saline Tubes** - (1ml sterile saline for vaginal wet mounts)
- Place swab in saline - break off tip to close tube
- Transport to lab immediately

**CoPan FLOQ Swab and UTM Tube** - (midturbinate flocked swabs and red capped universal transport medium tube)
- Used for Rapid PCR Flu test and the Respiratory Viral Panel; DFA test.
- Collect nasopharyngeal specimen and snap shaft at the precision snap molded breakpoint on swab shaft.

Microbiology Culture/PCR Testing Collection Reference List
• Insert the end of the swab shaft into the UTM red cap docking point and insert swab tip into the transport medium immediately after collection. Secure the cap.
• Transport to lab immediately; if delayed longer than 15 minutes in transporting the specimen to the laboratory, refrigerate and transport to the laboratory on wet ice.