

OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Laboratory will be changing collection requirements for LAB897, Culture Aerobic and LAB898, Culture Anaerobic. We will use eSwab, instead of the current swabs, pictured below. No need for multipleswabs.

**PLEASE NOTE, ACTUAL TISSUE OR FLUID IS ALWAYS BEST. If this is not attainable, use eSwab.**

eSwab is only used for aerobic and anaerobic culture samples. For any other tests requiring a swab collection, reference the directory of services/EPIC for the proper collection instructions.



## eSwab EASY TO USE INSTRUCTIONS

### CULTURE COLLECTION: ESWAB TRANSPORT SYSTEM

For Aerobic, Anaerobic and Fastidious Bacteria

#### TISSUE Specimen **\*\*A preferred specimen type:**

1. Remove the screw cap.
2. Introduce tissue into tube avoiding tipping tube.
3. Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.
4. Label with two unique patient identifiers, date, and source.
5. Send to lab ASAP at room temperature.

#### ASPIRATED Specimen **\*\*A preferred specimen type:**

1. Clean wound surface with sterile saline or 70% alcohol to remove contaminating flora and debris.
2. Aspirate fluid/material from the base or advancing area of the lesion.
3. Unscrew cap of collection tube and inject aspirated fluid.
4. Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.
5. Label with two unique patient identifiers, date, and source.
6. Send to lab ASAP at room temperature.

#### SWAB Specimen:

1. Open the peel pouch, remove the swab.
2. Clean wound surface with sterile saline or 70% alcohol to remove contaminating flora and debris.
3. Pass swab deeply into base or advancing area of lesion. **Avoid touching the swab applicator below the pink molded breakpoint.**
4. Unscrew cap and insert the swab **all the way to the bottom of the tube.**
5. Holding the swab shaft close to the rim of the tube, and keeping the tube away from your face, break the applicator shaft at the pink breakpoint indication line.
6. Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.
7. Discard the swab shaft in the proper receptacle.
8. Label with two unique patient identifiers, date, and source.
9. Send to laboratory ASAP at room temperature handling/shipment.

#### NOTE:

The eSwab Liquid Amies fluid maintains the viability of diverse bacteria. **Do not send a dry eSwab as this will lead to unsatisfactory results.**

If the tube spills its contents prior to inserting the swab, the liquid is non-toxic. Simply put the swab into another tube before sending it to the laboratory and discard the spilled tube.

If the tube spills after contamination, follow procedure for blood and body fluid clean up. Refer to your facility's infection control manual for further direction.

If contaminated fluid splashes onto the personnel collecting the sample, treat as a blood and body fluid exposure. Refer to your facility's infection control manual for further direction.