

Supplies

- ▶ 1 sterile thick swab
- ▶ 1 molecular transport tube
- ▶ 1 specimen bag

To ensure safety and validity of the sample it is important to follow these instructions.

Wound Swab

Decubitis Ulcer or Other Open Wounds

1. Debride 1 cm² of the wound.
2. Roll the swab directly across the affected area with enough force to produce fluid or blood and until the swab saturated, approximately 5 seconds.
3. Place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
4. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
5. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the tube retaining the swab in the tube.
6. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten top of the transport tube with the swab remaining in the tube.

Abscess with Intact Skin

1. Disinfect the area. Using a sterile needle/syringe, aspirate purulent material from abscess.
2. Transfer 0.3–0.5 mL of purulent material directly into molecular transport tube.
3. Securely tighten the top of the transport tube.

Abscess with Open Skin

1. Debride 1 cm² of the wound.
2. Roll sterile swab within abscess/sinus with purulent material and ensure the swab is fully saturated. Enough force should be applied to produce blood or fluid from the wound.
3. Place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
4. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
5. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the tube retaining the swab in the tube.
6. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten top of the transport tube with the swab remaining in the tube.

Vesicular Dermatitis Lesion

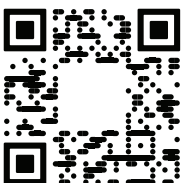
1. Carefully open the lesion with a scalpel blade.
2. Collect fluid contents on the swab.
3. Thoroughly swab the base. The 'roof tissue' of the vesicle can be carefully removed and submitted in same MTM tube.
4. Place all material in the molecular collection tube.
5. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap with the swab remaining in the tube.

Cellulitis/Tinea/Skin Rash

1. Gently scrape the affected area with a sterile scalpel blade.
2. Vigorously swab the scraped/affected area with the swab.
3. Using the same swab, collect any material on the scalpel blade.
4. Place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
5. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
6. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the tube retaining the swab in the tube.
7. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten top of the transport tube.

Nail

1. Don gloves. Clip the affected nail(s). Collect clippings on sterile gauze/paper (or equivalent).
2. Transfer nail(s) to provided molecular transport tube.
3. Optional: Using an appropriately sized sterile surgical blade, scrape affected subungual/periungual debris/tissue from the site directly into the molecular transport tube (or collect on sterile gauze/paper, and then transfer to transport tube). Collection of BOTH nail material and periungual material maximizes diagnostic yield and ensures that both pathogenic fungi and pathogenic bacteria are detected.
4. Securely tighten the tube top and ensure all material is submerged in transport fluid.



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