

Selection of eSwabs for Bacterial Investigation



PINK

- Wounds, skin, ulcers and burns.
- High vaginal swab
- Endocervical
- Oral
- MRSA screening



ORANGE

- Ear
- Eye
- Nasal
- Throat
- Urethral



BLUE

- Nasopharyngeal for *Bordetella pertussis* investigation

Step 1

Complete ICE request form

Collect equipment:

- Select appropriate eSwab
- Examination gloves
- Apron

Use sterile examination gloves to avoid contamination with your own skin flora.

Check all items to be used are within expiry date.

Expiry date



Step 2

Please select appropriate eSwab for investigation required, as detailed above.

Take swab supplied with specimen tube and take sample as required for investigation. Please take separate samples for each request / additional sites.



Step 3

Place sampled swab into specimen tube containing liquid transport medium. Break off the swab at the red mark indicated on the swab shaft.



Step 4

Following sampling replace the cap on the specimen tube and screw on firmly to avoid leakage of material.



Step 5

Ensure patient details and swab site are clearly labelled on the specimen tube and match the request form. (It is acceptable to use a small patient ID/ICE label).

Unlabelled specimens will not be processed. Once complete please send to Microbiology for laboratory investigation.

For further information contact the Microbiology Department on 01642 282606 or extension 52606.