

Group A Strep PCR Sample Handling and Storage

PURPOSE

- This procedure provides instructions for sample acceptability, handling and storage
- Refer to the [Laboratory Services](#) web page for test specific patient preparation and specimen collection information.

SAMPLE

A. Acceptable specimens and transport container

Specimen type	Specimen code	Volume	Transport Containers
Throat swab	THR	1 swab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BBL CultureSwab™ in Liquid Stuart's, white top ▪ BBL Dual CultureSwab™ in Liquid Stuart's, red top

B. Unacceptable specimens: rectal swabs, nasal swabs, skin

C. Transport and Storage: For additional information refer to [Laboratory Services](#) web page

Temperature	Sample Stability in BBL CultureSwab™
Room temperature	24 hour
Refrigerated 2 - 8° C	5 days

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- Standard precautions. Refer to [MB 2.02](#) Biohazard Containment
- Use of engineering controls: Refer to [MB 3.01](#) Engineering Controls to Prevent Nucleic Acid Contamination

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Equipment	Media	Supplies
Refrigerator, 2 - 8° C	BBL CultureSwab™	Nitrile gloves
Storage bin, room temp	BBL Dual CultureSwab™	

PROCEDURE A: Follow the activity below for sample handling

Activity	Step	Action	Related Doc
Identification Location: Microbiology	1	Verify that the patient identification on the primary container corresponds to the accompanying order	MB 1.01 Specimen Management
	2	Receive sample in Sunquest and generate label <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sunquest location: MC ▪ Sunquest code: GASDN 	

Activity	Step	Action	Related Doc
ID cont.	3	Confirm the name on the label is the same as the name on primary container	Organizational policy 630.00 Laboratory Specimen Labeling
	4	Affix LIS accession label to corresponding primary container	
Quality	4	Evaluate the quality of the specimen.	MB 1.02 Specimen Rejection Criteria
Store	5	Store specimen at room temperature	
	6	Place specimen and label in molecular designated area	

REFERENCES

1. Clinical Verification and Validation Study performed at Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of MN August 2014

Historical Record

Version	Written/Revised by:	Effective Date:	Summary of Revisions
1	P. Ackerman	9.9.14	Initial Version
2	P. Ackerman	07.26.16	Reformatted for CMS upload; updated Sunquest code