

Document Name:

Wet-Prep Using Saline

Approved By:

Jennifer G. Daley Bernier, A/Manager, Laboratory Services

Status: **APPROVED**

PURPOSE:

- To identify the presence of yeast and/or trichomonas in vaginal swabs
- To confirm the presence of yeast in culture.
- To determine the motility characteristics of some bacteria.

INTRODUCTION:

Wet-preps are performed directly from submitted vaginal swabs when requested by the ordering physician to screen for yeast and *Trichomonas vaginalis*. A wet preparation is also useful in confirming the presence of yeast colonies in culture. Wet-preps can also be used to determine the motility characteristics of some bacteria.

NOTE: This method will not cover wet-preparations for motility where medium other than saline is required.

SUPPLIES:

- Swab or Culture Plate
- Microscope
- Glass slides and cover slips
- Test tubes
- Sterile Saline

SPECIAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

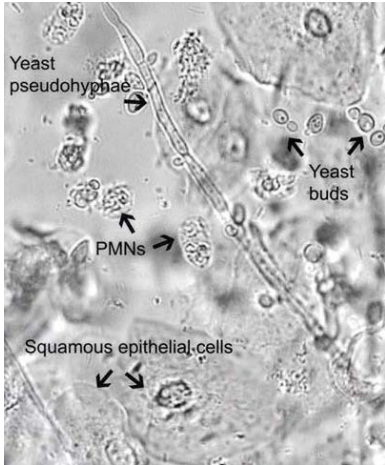
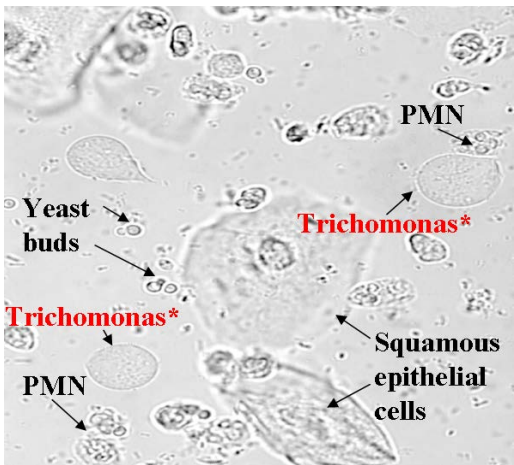
Containment Level 2 facilities, equipment, and operational practices for work involving infectious or potentially infectious materials or cultures.

- Lab gown must be worn when performing activities with potential pathogens.
- Gloves must be worn when direct skin contact with infected materials is unavoidable.

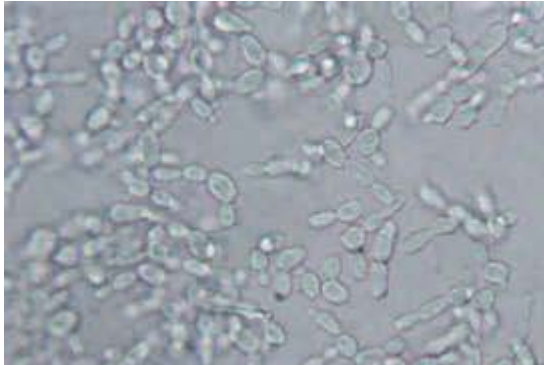
NOTE: This is a controlled document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against electronic version prior to use.

- Eye protection must be used where there is a known or potential risk of exposure to splashes.
- All procedures that may produce aerosols, or involve high concentrations or large volumes should be conducted in a biological safety cabinet (BSC).
- The use of needles, syringes, and other sharp objects should be strictly limited.

PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS:

Step	Action
Setting up a Wet Prep from a Swab	
1	Label the test tube with the accession number and patient demographics.
2	Place approximately 0.5 mL of saline into a test tube.
3	Place the culture swab in the saline and “flick” the tube to loosen the swab material.
4	Incubate for 15 minutes at 35°C.
5	After incubation dab the culture swab onto the microscope slide then return the swab to its original transport tube.
6	Place the coverslip on the slide. Allow the slide to “settle”
7	Place the slide under the microscope.
8	<p>Examine under 40X for the presence of yeast and trichomonas. TIP: Decrease the light of a light microscope by closing the diaphragm or use a phase contrast microscope.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>

NOTE: This is a controlled document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against electronic version prior to use.

Step	Action
Setting Up a Wet Prep from Culture	
1	<p>LIS CODE: ^WP Place a drop of saline onto a glass slide</p>
2	Using a sterile loop or wooden stick pick the desired colony from the plate and make a smooth suspension in the saline
3	Place the cover slip on the slide. Allow the slide to “settle”
4	Place the slide under the microscope.
5	<p>Examine under 40X for the presence of yeast or to observe motility. TIP: Decrease the light of a light microscope by closing the diaphragm or use a phase contrast microscope.</p> 

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:

- In order to call yeast the cells must be budding
- In order to call Trichomonas the flagella must be seen and motile
- If wet mount is for motility and motility is negative by initial wet mount the organism cannot be classified as non-motile until more in-depth motility tests are performed.

NOTE: This is a controlled document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against electronic version prior to use.

REFERENCES:

Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, 4th edition, ASM Press, 2016

Jorgensen J.H., Pfaller M.A., Carroll K.C., Funke G., Landry M.L., Richter S.S., Warnock D.W. 2015. Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 11th edition, ASM Press, Washington, D.C.

REVISION HISTORY:

REVISION	DATE	Description of Change	REQUESTED BY
1.0	03-NOV-2010	Initial Release	M-L Dufresne
2.0	31-Dec-2013	LIS updates/pictures	A.Darrach
3.0	31-March-16	Update of "Special Safety Precautions" to reflect risk assessment recommendations.	C. Russell
4.0	26-May-17	Procedure reviewed and references updated; Format updated; Document number changed (Old Number MIC52700)	L. Steven

 Invalid signature

X 

Jennifer G. Daley Bernier, R.T. (CSMLS)
A/Manager, Laboratory Services
Signed by: Jennifer G. Daley Bernier

NOTE: This is a controlled document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against electronic version prior to use.