1. Proper specimen collection

 - Appropriate hand hygiene must be followed. See test procedure for details.

 a. sterile speculum exam

 b. sterile swab contacts only the upper vaginal tissue (posterior vaginal fornix and external cervical os)

 c. do not contact the mucous plug in the cervix

2. State false positives

 a. heavy vaginal discharge, blood, cervical mucous, semen, alkaline urine, antibiotics, vaginal infections, soap

3. State false negatives

 a. prolonged rupture of membranes (>24 hours)

 b. if a small volume of fluid has leaked

4. Perform test

 a. tear off section of NitraTest paper

 b. touch paper to tip of swab

 c. Immediately compare color to chart

5. Interpret results

 a. yellow to yellow-green is negative for the mature rupture of fetal membrane

 b. blue-green to blue is positive for amniotic fluid

6. Document results in EMR

Please review the lab procedures in the BDHS organization-wide Policies and Procedures manual. This manual may be found in SharePoint under the Policies and Procedures tab, Organization Wide, Laboratory. You will be asked to locate these procedures by an inspector.

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