

TEST: **NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE AND CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS**

PRINCIPLE:

The AMPLICOR CT/NG Test uses Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technology to detect the *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* DNA and *Chlamydia trachomatis* plasmid DNA in this qualitative test. It has four major processes: specimen preparation; PCR amplification of target DNA using NG and CT specific complimentary primers; hybridization of the amplified DNA to oligonucleotide probes specific to the target(s); and detection of the probe-bound amplified DNA by colorimetric determination.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

1. Endocervical and male urethral swab specimens can be collected and transported in 1 to 3 ml 2SP culture transport medium, Bartels ChlamTrans chlamydial transport medium (Bartels, Inc.), SPG culture transport medium, or M4 culture transport medium (Micro Test, Inc.). Use recommended methods for obtaining swab specimens after removing cervical mucus.
2. Use only dacron, rayon, or calcium alginate tipped collection swabs with plastic or non-aluminum wire shafts. Do not use collection swabs with wooden or aluminum shafts.
3. Leave swabs in the transport media. Seal the specimen container and label appropriately. Refrigerate swab specimens if transport to the laboratory is delayed for more than one hour from the time of collection.

METHOD: Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

REFERENCES:

1. Evangelista, A.T. and Bilstein, H.R. 1993. Cumitech 4A: Laboratory Diagnosis of Gonorrhea (C. Abramson, ed.) ASM Press, Washington D.C.
2. National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards. Protection of Laboratory Workers from Infectious Disease Transmitted by Blood, Body Fluids, and Tissue. Approved Guideline. NCCLS Document M29-A Villanova, PA: NCCLS, 1997.
2. AMPLICOR CT/NG Test for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* package insert. Roche Diagnostics Corporation. 1999.

Reference Range: See Laboratory Report

Turnaround Time: Two weeks