

## Group B Streptococcus Screening Test

This test is performed on pregnant women to detect the presence of Group B Streptococcus in the genital area. This bacterium colonises approximately 1 in 4 of pregnant women, and in rare cases, may cause infection (sepsis, pneumonia or meningitis) in the newborn.

Screening for Group B Streptococcus carriage usually occurs in the third trimester of pregnancy (usually at 35 to 37 weeks gestation) so that antibiotics can be administered to the colonised mother at the time of delivery to prevent complications in the baby.

A pregnant woman who tests positive for Group B Streptococcus and gets antibiotics during labour has only a 1 in 4,000 chance of delivering a baby who will develop Group B Strep disease, compared to a 1 in 200 chance if she does not.

### Collection Instructions

After completing the paperwork, the collector will give you a kit with gloves and a swab to use for the collection. If you need further information at this stage, you may ask the collector for more instruction.

#### Step 1.

Put gloves on. You may lie on the bed or remain standing, whichever is more comfortable for you. Remove the swab from the packaging and insert the cotton end of the swab 2cm into your vagina and remove. Do not touch the cotton end with fingers.

#### Step 2.

Using the same swab, insert the cotton end 1cm into your anus (back passage) and remove.

#### Step 3.

Remove the cap from the plastic sterile tube.

#### Step 4.

Place the swab into the tube. Ensure the cap fits firmly.

#### Step 5.

On the label of the plastic tube; write your name, date of birth, and the date and time of the collection.

#### Step 6.

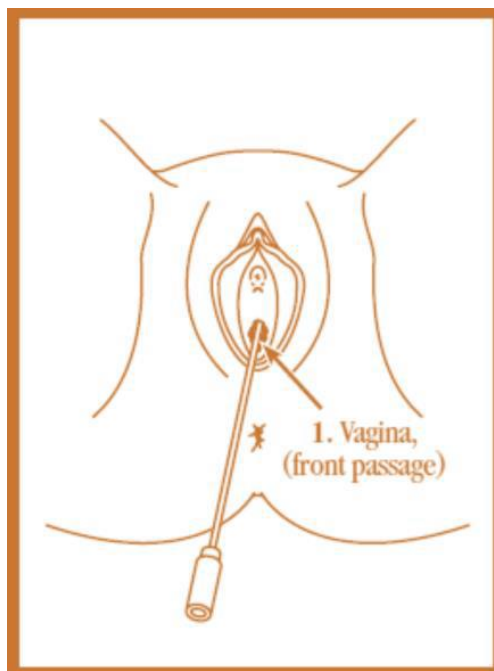
Remove the gloves and dispose of them in a rubbish bin, and wash your hands.

#### Step 7.

Place the swab container in the transport bag and return the sample to your nearest collection centre.

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**Step 2.**

Using the same swab, insert the cotton end 1cm into your anus (back passage) and remove.

