

# Chronic Wound/Ulcer & Tinea Infections

## Collection Instructions



SAMPLE TYPE: Wound Swab

### MATERIALS PROVIDED

- 1 sterile swab
- 1 specimen bag
- 1 molecular transport tube
- 1 UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer

To ensure safety and validity of the sample, it is important to follow these instructions.

**⚠ DO NOT DISINFECT THE WOUND PRIOR TO SAMPLING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

1. Don gloves and follow one of the sample collection methods below based upon the type of wound:

#### **Decubitus ulcer and other open wounds:**

- Roll the swab directly across the affected area until saturated.
- Proceed to step 2.

#### **Abscess with intact skin:**

- Disinfect the area. Using a sterile needle/syringe, aspirate purulent material from abscess.
- Transfer 0.3-0.5 mL of purulent material directly into molecular transport tube.
- Proceed to step 5.

#### **Abscess with open skin/sinus tract:**

- Roll sterile swab within abscess/sinus with purulent material and ensure the swab is fully saturated.
- Proceed to step 2.

#### **Joint Fluid:**

- Disinfect the area. Using a sterile needle/syringe, aspirate joint fluid.
- Eject 0.3-0.5 mL of joint fluid directly into molecular transport tube.
- Proceed to step 5.

#### **Vesicular dermatitis lesions:**

- Carefully open the lesion with a scalpel blade.
- Collect fluid contents on the swab.
- Thoroughly swab the base. The 'roof tissue' of the vesicle can be carefully removed, and submitted in same MTM tube.
- Place all material in the molecular collection tube.
- Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap.
- Keep the tube in an upright position for 10-15 minutes.

#### **Cellulitis/Skin Rashes:**

- Preferred/Optional: Gently scrape the affected area with a sterile scalpel blade (not provided).
- Vigorously swab the scraped/affected area with the swab.
- Using the same swab, collect any material on the scalpel blade.
- Proceed to step 2.

- Place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
- Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
- Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the tube retaining the swab in the tube.
- Snap off excess handle and securely tighten top of the transport tube.
- Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 - 15 minutes.