

Samples for STI testing – Southwark and Lewisham

Orange Aptima swab



- **Chlamydia & gonorrhoea NAAT**
Sample of choice for women at risk of chlamydia or gonorrhoea

Self-taken vulvo-vaginal swab

Yellow Aptima urine specimen kit



- **Chlamydia & gonorrhoea NAAT** – sample of choice for men at risk of chlamydia or gonorrhoea

First pass urine, sample should be taken > 1 hour since last urinated

Red Copan swabs for virology testing



- **Herpes simplex NAAT**
- **Syphilis NAAT**

To swab genital lesions

When requesting, specify the lesion is GENITAL and if vesicle or ulcer

Blue or black Amies gel culture swabs – clear jelly or charcoal



- **Gonorrhoea culture** for selected patients only
Urethral or endocervical swab in men or women with high suspicion of gonorrhoea
- **TV culture** in patients at risk: this test has limitations
High Vaginal Swab usually adds little or no diagnostic value for women with discharge: attend SHIP training

NAAT = Nucleic Acid Amplification Test.

All featured kits may be stored at room temperature prior to use

Key messages from SHIP Training:

- Rapid risk assessment underpins appropriate and selective use of these tests.
- Encourage use of pH paper for women with vaginal discharge who are not at risk of STI
- Adopt a highly selective approach to the use of HVS. If you haven't yet attended SHIP Training – please go to: www.shiptraining.org.uk or contact clinicallead@shiptraining.org.uk