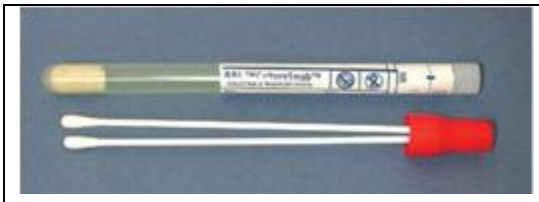
LEGACY HEALTH | LEGACY LABORATORY SERVICES

Microbiology Collection Devices

	**Routine Culture Swabs** *Red cap single or double swabs* *Amies or Stuarts* These swabs are appropriate for non-liquid routine cultures. The brand name may be either Copan or BBL and the transport media either Amies or Stuarts. May look similar to PCR swabs below, but there is no notch on shaft so cannot be used for PCR testing. Store at room temperature. After use, insert swab back into plastic holder, break ampule, label and transport at room temperature. Optimally transport within 2 hours. *Use for routine aerobic cultures of throat, ear skin, genital, strep screen, yeast and fungus cultures.*
	PCR Swabs and/or Routine Culture Swabs *Red cap double swabs with **notch (scoring) on shaft*** *Stuarts media* These swabs are appropriate for non-liquid routine cultures. The brands name is Copan and the transport medial Stuarts. Store at room temperature. After use, insert swab back into plastic holder, break ampule, label and transport at room temperature. Optimally transport within 2 hours. **This is the ONLY swab approved for PCR testing in Microbiology**. *Use for routine aerobic cultures of throat, ear skin, genital, strep screen, yeast and fungus cultures, and MRSA, Flu, and GBS PCR testing.*
	Wire Shaft Swab *Green cap single swabs* These green-top swabs are used for culturing the nasopharynx. The brand name may be either Copan or BBL. Store at room temperature. After use, label and transport at room temperature. Use for Bordetella pertussis DNA Probe (PCR), also good for collection of specimens for urethra, nasopharynx, eye, etc. Viral cultures (put swab in M4).
	Amies Charcoal Swab *Orange cap single swabs* These orange-top swabs have a thin wire shaft and small swab for culturing the nasopharynx. The brand name may be either Copan or BBL. Store at room temperature. After use, label and transport at room temperature. NEVER REFRIGERATE. *Use for Boirdetella pertussis cultures ONLY. DO NOT USE FOR PERTUSSIS DNA (PCR).*

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	Anaerobic Collection Transport Media *Port-A-Cul tube and sterile swab or similar brand* Before using, store in the refrigerator. When sterile swab is used to collect a specimen, plunge the inoculated swab into the solid media until the head of swab is completely covered, break off shaft. Place small pieces of tissue or aspirated fluid atop the transport media. Transport the Port-A-Cul tube at room temperature. **Note**: Specimens contaminated by normal flora are not acceptable for anaerobic culture (voided urine, skin lesions, sputum, etc.). *Use for anaerobic/aerobic cultures. Swabs discourage for anaerobe cultures, submit tissue/fluid.*
	M4 RT Transport Media This product is a pink liquid medium in a conical centrifuge tube (red cap). Media is stored and submitted at room temperature. Use with swab or aspirate fluid. NO WOODEN SHAFT SWABS. Break/cut off swab shaft into fluid. DO NOT use M4 RT to submit large volume (>0.5 mL) fluids. Use original container. *Use for Viral, Herpes, Varicella, Chlamydia*. **Note**: *Must use original (blue top) M4 media for Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma cultures and must be refrigerated before and after collection.*
	Enteric Culture Swab *Red cap single CARY BLAIR swab* These swabs are ONLY appropriate for fecal or rectal samples for ENTERIC (Salmonella/Shigella, etc.) pathogens. Store at room temperature. After collection, transport and store swab at room temperature. Optimally, transport within 2 hours. See Collection/Transport Guide for Stool Orders. *Can be used for stool cultures s an alternative to Enteric Transport vials.*
	Pinworm Collector Swube™ Paddle Use this plastic paddle with sticky side to capture Enterobius vermicularis (pinworm) eggs for microscopic identification. Press the sticky side of the paddle against perianal folds, then replace in the transport tube with cap securely tightened. Store and transport at room temperature. **Note**: DO NOT insert paddle into anus, and DO NOT cover paddle with stool.