

# Laboratory News

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## Change in Platform for Vaginitis Testing

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Effective January 15, 2024, the testing platform and collection kit utilized for the Vaginitis Panel (VAGNAT) will be changing. This is a “soft” discontinuation; the current testing method will remain available until **March 4, 2024**.

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### New Instrumentation

Marshfield Labs has verified a new testing platform for the Vaginitis Panel, the Hologic Panther. Hologic is the industry leader in women’s health testing; Marshfield Labs currently uses this instrumentation for *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and *Trichomonas vaginalis* testing. We will now be able to provide the vaginitis testing using the same swab if any of these other tests are also requested.

Components within the Vaginitis panel have not changed – reporting remains the same.

## New Collection Kit

Please note that with this change in platform, a new collection kit must be used.

The only acceptable collection kit is the Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit shown below (orange label, pink swab). These are already stocked at Marshfield Labs and can be ordered as necessary by calling 1-800-222-5835.



As noted above, this same tube can be used for STI testing in females. (*Please see attached matrix to see acceptable collection kits for this testing*)

Below is a picture of the current collection kit. Please take a look at your inventory and discard these kits. They will no longer be accepted after **MARCH 4, 2024**.



## New Rejection Criteria

This testing is only approved for females 14 years and older. Females under the age of 14 do not fit the algorithm used to determine normal vaginal flora; this age group was not validated by the company and thus not approved by the FDA for this testing.

If vaginitis testing is needed for this age group, please submit for Aerobic Culture if suspecting bacteria, or Fungal Culture if suspecting yeast.

## Test Details

### VAGNAT – Vaginitis Panel, NAT

- **Test includes:** Bacterial Vaginosis (BV), *Candida* species, *Candida glabrata*, *Gardnerella vaginalis*, and *Trichomonas vaginalis*.
- **Specimen type:** Vaginal swab collected and submitted in Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit.
- **Transport Temperature:** 2-30°C; sample viable for up to 30 days
- **Performed:** Monday through Sunday
- **CPT Code:** 81514

## Questions

Please call Marshfield Labs Customer Service at 1-800-222-5835 with questions.