Partner Update

January 2026

Service Update: Expanded Test Menu for *Chlamydia*, Gonorrhea, and *Trichomonas* Testing

Audience

British Columbia Healthcare providers assessing patients for *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT), *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC), and *Trichomonas vaginalis* (TV) infection.

Overview

Dynacare currently offers nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) for CT, GC, and TV collected from genital sites and urine using Hologic Panther assays. Effective December 2025, Dynacare will accept samples collected from the rectum and pharynx for CT and GC testing and will also accept male urine samples for TV testing.

Rationale for Expanded Sample Test Menu

Testing of Rectal and Pharyngeal Samples for CT and GC

Testing of CT and GC from rectal- and pharyngeal-collected samples has recently received Health Canada approval status for the Hologic Aptima Combo 2 test, which is currently in use by Dynacare. Dynacare has conducted a verification of samples collected from these extra-genital sites and confirmed acceptable performance for diagnostic testing.

Rectal and/or pharyngeal testing is recommended in cases of unprotected sexual exposure at anal or oral sites for the following at-risk groups: i) men who have sex with men (MSM), ii) sex workers and their contacts, iii) patients who are known contacts of those infected with CT or GC, and iv) individuals who have signs or symptoms of rectal infection. Testing of individuals who may have had exposures but are not within these specific risk groups should be considered based on their individual risk and local epidemiology. Importantly, this test is approved for samples collected from both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. Many patients with rectal and pharyngeal CT and/or GC infection are asymptomatic and do not have simultaneous genital infections, which may increase the risk of missed diagnosis unless sampling of these potential anatomic reservoirs occurs.

Testing of Male Urine Samples for TV

Dynacare has completed a verification study to determine the performance of TV NAAT testing from male urine samples and confirmed acceptable performance for diagnostic testing.

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Sample Collection Guide

Both clinician-collected and patient-collected rectal and pharyngeal swab samples will be accepted for testing by Dynacare. However, patient self-sampling is not available at Dynacare specimen collection centers and must be conducted in a clinical setting where collection process support can be provided.

Rectal and pharyngeal samples should be collected using the Hologic Aptima Multitest Swab. This product can be ordered through Dynacare by selecting 'APTIMA MULTITEST collection kits" using the VML Partner Supplies Order Form. Hologic Aptima Unisex Swabs should be reserved for sample of urethral and endocervical sites only.

A summary of acceptable sample types and appropriate collection containers is summarized in **Table 1**, with images of appropriate collection containers demonstrated in **Figure 1**.

Additional information including collection and transport instructions for each test can be found at Dynacare.ca in the 'Find a Test' menu, or by following the links in **Table 2**.

<u>**Figure 1. Images of Appropriate Specimen Collection Containers.**</u>

Multitest Swab	Unisex Swab	First Void Urine

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Table 1. Summary of Sample Type and Appropriate Collection Container.

Collection Kit	Sample Type	Chlamydia & Gonorrhea	Trichomonas	Transport & Storage
Aptima® Multitest Swab Collection Kit	Clinician-Collected Vaginal Swab	√	√	Store and ship at 2°C to 30°C to lab within 30 days of collection
	Patient-Collected Vaginal Swab	√		
	Clinician- or Patient-Collected Throat Swab	√		
	Clinician- or Patient-Collected Rectal Swab	√		
Aptima® Unisex Swab Collection Kit	Clinician-Collected Endocervical Swab	√	√	
	Clinician-Collected Male Urethral Swab	√		
Aptima® Urine Collection Kit (Transferred from First Void Urine)	Female Urine	√	√	
	Male Urine	√	√	
First Void Urine (Sterile Container)	Female Urine	√	√	Store and ship at 2°C to 30°C to lab within 24 hours of collection
	Male Urine	√	√	

Table 2. Links to Test Information* for *Trichomonas*, Gonorrhea, and *Chlamydia* by Specimen Type.

TRICHOMONAS	GONORRHEA	CHLAMYDIA
[TRICHOMONAS GENITAL SWAB](#)	[GONORRHEA GENITAL SWAB](#)	[CHLAMYDIA GENITAL SWAB](#)
[TRICHOMONAS URINE](#)	[GONORRHEA URINE](#)	[CHLAMYDIA URINE](#)
	[GONORRHEA RECTAL SWAB](#)	[CHLAMYDIA RECTAL SWAB](#)
	[GONORRHEA THROAT SWAB](#)	[CHLAMYDIA THROAT SWAB](#)

*Test information can also be accessed by navigating to Dynacare.ca, selecting 'Find a Test', and searching the test names provided in Table 2.

Action Required

Healthcare providers should be aware of the update to test methodology and ensure that the correct collection container is used for sample submission. Tests can be ordered using the Ministry of Health Standard Out-Patient Laboratory Requisition. Sample types that are not acceptable as described in this Partner Update will be rejected.

Questions about the Change?

Dynacare is committed to providing the highest quality and value to our partners. We look forward to working with you as we implement this change. If you have inquiries, please contact Customer Care at 250-768-4813 ext. 6.

References

1. Aptima Combo 2 (CT/GC) Package Insert: https://www.hologic.com/file/50601/download?token=WYlK-Of4

2. Aptima Trichomonas Package Insert: https://www.hologic.com/file/52946/download?token=aDRE0_ky

3. Canadian Guidelines on Sexually Transmitted Infections: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/sexual-health-sexually-transmitted-infections/canadian-guidelines.html