Directions for Vaginal Swab Collection
(for patients)

1. Remove cap from test tube without touching the inside of the cap or tube. Set cap silver-side down on clean paper towel. Set the open tube in test tube rack as shown in Figure 1. If cap is dropped, please notify clinic staff.

2. Partially open the swab package as shown in Figure 2. Remove the swab but do not touch the soft tip or lay the swab down.

3. IMPORTANT: In order to prevent the swab from breaking off when inserted, hold the THUMB AND FINGER OVER THE GRAY LINE on the middle of the swab shaft as shown in Figure 3.

4. Insert the swab into your vagina about 2 inches and gently rotate the swab for 10-30 seconds as shown in Figure 4. (see page 2)
5. Withdraw the swab without touching the skin. Place the swab into the test tube so that the tip of the swab is visible below the tube label as shown in Figure 5.

6. Break the swab shaft against the side of the tube as shown in Figure 6. Be careful not to splash the contents of the tube. If tube is dropped, contents spilled, or if the swab flips out of the tube, please notify clinic staff.

7. Re-cap the tube tightly without touching the inside of the cap or the silver top as shown in Figure 7.