

Bacterial Vaginosis Gram Stain



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Effective February 20, 2017 St. Luke's Laboratory will begin performing gram stains for the detection of bacterial vaginosis in women of child-bearing age.

This new test will use gram staining to evaluate the relative amounts of different bacterial morphotypes present in vaginal swab specimens. The specimens will then be scored using the Nugent Scoring System and given a corresponding interpretation to indicate the following: normal vaginal flora, a transition from normal flora, or flora indicative of bacterial vaginosis. The presence of clue cells, yeast, and white blood cells will also be reported.* **Please note:** Only Trichomonas PCR or Wet Prep is appropriate for the determination of *Trichomonas vaginalis* infection, as this organism cannot be detected by gram stain.

Sample Type: • Vaginal secretions collected with a sterile Dacron swab in transport media (SP® Brand CultureSwab) at ambient temperature within 24 hours of collection. Swabs transported in small amounts of 0.9% saline (as used with Wet Preps) will also be accepted.

Test Name: Bacterial Vaginosis Gram Stain

If you have questions, please contact or Dr. Jon Steinhauer, M.D. (218) 249-5749, Microbiology Medical Director or St. Luke's Microbiology Laboratory at (218) 249-5319 .