



***Streptococcus* Group A, Molecular Detection, PCR, Throat**

Test ID: GAPCR

Useful for: Detecting group A streptococcal infections in patients with signs and symptoms of pharyngitis using a throat swab specimen

Methods:

Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

Reference Values:

Negative

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation: Do not collect throat swab specimens immediately after use of antiseptic mouthwash.

Specimen Type: Throat swab

Supplies: BD E-Swab (T853)

Container/Tube:

Preferred: BD Liquid Amies Elution Swab (ESwab)

Acceptable: Copan Liquid Amies Elution Swab (ESwab)

Specimen Volume: Entire collection/1 ESwab

Collection Instructions:

1. Must be collected and transported using the ESwab collection kit.
2. Using a tongue blade to hold the tongue down, firmly rub the swab over the tonsils, posterior pharynx, and any areas of inflammation with exudate. Ensure that areas with exudate or inflammation are swabbed.
3. Avoid the tongue, teeth, and gums as the swab is withdrawn.
4. Insert the swab back into the ESwab transport tube and break the swab at the indicated score line.
5. Label specimen according to policy.
6. Send refrigerated. Do not freeze.

Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
ESwab	Refrigerated	6 days

Cautions:

The test is **not intended for** monitoring treatment for group A *Streptococcus* infections.

Please see our online test catalog for a list of additional cautionary statements.

CPT Code:

87651

Day(s) Performed: Monday through Sunday

Report Available: 1 day

Questions

Contact Brandon DeBoom, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.