



SSTI PANEL

INDICATIONS:

Clinical Significance: Skin and soft tissue infections (SSTI), wounds, and surgical site infections (SSI) are a major issue of morbidity and mortality in the community and healthcare system. Skin or our epidermal layer provides us with a protective barrier between the microbial environment and our sub-dermal tissue, organs, and blood stream. Whenever that barrier is breached by trauma, surgery, or infectious abscess, a strong immune response is triggered to the infecting organism. SSTI, wound infections, and SSI can be caused by a single bacteria or can be polymicrobial depending on the site and length of time of the infection. The initial stages of a SSTI, wound infection, and SSI usually involve the Gram-positive Staphylococcus, Streptococcus, or Enterococcus species. Other bacteria can cause the infections, such as the facultative anaerobic Gram-negative rods Escherichia coli, Klebsiella species, Proteus mirabilis, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. These bacteria are usually present at wounds lasting for weeks or surgical site infections, especially those associated with gut or OB/GYN surgeries. Chronic wounds lasting weeks can be due to other facultative anaerobic bacteria such as Bacteriodes fragilis, Peptostreptococcus, and facultative anaerobic Gram-negative rods such as Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Enterobacter species. Both topical and systemic antibiotics are used to treat these infections depending on the clinical presentation. Antibiotics suggested by the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA), provider survey, and the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) were selected for this antibiotic susceptibility assay.

SPECIMEN:

One Swab

SUPPLIES:

1. Specimen Requisition
2. Specimen Bag with a biohazard label
3. One Swab Collection device

COLLECTION PROCEDURE:

One Swab

1. Aseptically remove sterile swab from package.
2. Collect specimen by vigorously swabbing site involved for 10-30 seconds.
3. Aseptically remove cap from vial.
4. Break swab and insert into medium.
5. Replace cap to vial. Close tightly.
6. Fill out vial label with patient information.



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Submit all patient information following the procedure for "Completing a Gynecologic Cytology Requisition".

Complete test requisition including last and first name of patient, patient's date of birth and social security number, body site and source of specimen collected. Label specimen container (using the labels provided on the requisition) with patient's first name and last name, and body site/source. The container must have at least two (2) unique identifiers. Examples of unique identifiers: patient name, DOB, unique bar code, etc. Include pertinent clinical information, i.e., previous malignancy, radiation therapy, drugs, etc. Place container in a specimen bag with a biohazard label. Place the requisition in the side pocket of the specimen bag.