



## Self-Collected Vaginal Swab Specimen Collection Procedure

### Patient Instructions

1. Wash hands with soap and water. Rinse and dry.
2. It is important to maintain a comfortable balance during the collection procedure.
3. Remove the sterile swab from its sheath, taking care not to contaminate the tip or shaft. **Do not lay the swab down on any surface.** If you touch the swab tip or if the swab is laid down, discard it and request a new BD MAX UVE Specimen Collection Swab. Check for presence of the swab tip. If the swab has no tip, discard it and request a new BD MAX UVE Specimen Collection Swab.
4. Hold the swab by the white cap in one hand so that the swab tip is pointing toward you.
5. With your other hand, gently spread the skin outside the vagina. Insert the tip of the swab into the vaginal opening. Point the tip toward your lower back and relax your muscles.
6. Gently slide the swab no more than 2 inches into the vagina. If the swab does not slide easily, gently rotate the swab as you push. **If it is still difficult, do not attempt to continue.** Make sure the swab touched the walls of the vagina so that the moisture is absorbed by the swab.
7. Rotate the swab for 10-15 seconds.
8. Withdraw the swab without touching the skin.
9. Replace the swab in its sheath and cap securely.
10. After collection, wash hands with soap and water, rinse and dry.
11. Return the swab in its sheath to the nurse or clinician as instructed.

Figure 1: Transfer of Swab Specimens to the BD MAX UVE Sample Buffer Tube



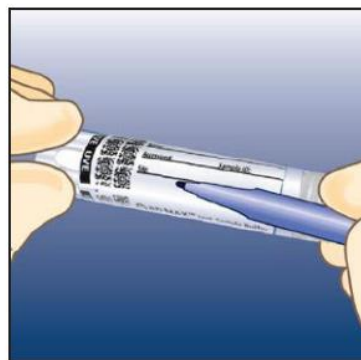
1. Fully insert the swab into the tube so that the tip is at the bottom.



2. Carefully break the shaft at the score mark.



3. Tightly recap the tube.



4. Label tube with patient information.