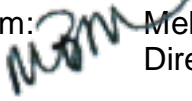
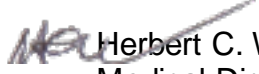




Memorandum Micro #246

To: UNC Health Attending Physicians, Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From:  Melissa B. Miller, MD
Director, Clinical Microbiology and Molecular Microbiology Laboratories

 Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD
Medical Director, UNCMC McLendon Clinical Laboratories

Date: June 17, 2025

Subject: Primary HPV Test Update: Self-Collected Vaginal Swab

Beginning June 18, 2025, UNC Medical Center McLendon Clinical Laboratories will begin offering self-collected vaginal swabs as an acceptable specimen type for Primary HPV DNA testing (EPIC: LAB9216). Note self-collected vaginal swabs are **NOT acceptable for cytology**, including co-testing (HPV DNA and Pap) and ASC-US reflex (Pap with reflex to HPV for ASC-US). Positive HPV DNA tests from self-collected vaginal swabs will not be reflexed to cytology. If cytology is needed, order and collect a clinician-collected ThinPrep liquid-based pap test.

The only acceptable swab for HPV self-collected vaginal swabs is the Copan FLOQSwab pictured below, which is available through Shared Services (Infor # 447765). Submit a MySupport - Infor Financial and Supply Chain ticket to add item to a PAR location. Swabs must be suspended in PreservCyt Solution (ThinPrep) prior to transporting to the laboratory.



Education and collection resources are available below and on the McLendon Clinical Laboratories website: [HPV HR NAAT](#).

[Collection and Suspension Instructions PDF](#)
[CLINIC STAFF - Resuspending instructions video](#)

[PATIENT - How to self-collect video](#)

Questions can be directed to the Molecular Microbiology Lab 984-974-1820 or Dr. Melissa Miller at Melissa.Miller@unchealth.unc.edu.