



# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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## LABORATORY TEST FACT SHEET

**TEST: TRICHOMONAS VAGINALIS NAAT**

**ORDER CODE: 2920**

### TEST DESCRIPTION

Trichomoniasis is a common sexually transmitted disease caused by *Trichomonas vaginalis*, a parasitic protozoa. Infections in women cause vaginitis, urethritis, and cervicitis. Discharge and small hemorrhagic lesions may be present in the genitourinary tract. Complications can include premature labor, low-birth-weight offspring, premature rupture of membranes, and post-abortion or post-hysterectomy infection. An association with pelvic inflammatory disease, tubal infertility, and cervical cancer with previous episodes of trichomoniasis has been reported. Symptomatic women with trichomoniasis usually complain of vaginal discharge, vulvovaginal soreness, and/or irritation. Dysuria is also common. However, it has been estimated that 10 to 50% of *T. vaginalis* infections in women are asymptomatic, and in men the proportion may even be higher.

County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Laboratory performs a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) for the detection of *Trichomonas vaginalis* (TV) using a real-time polymerase chain reaction assay (cobas® TV/MG assay, Roche Molecular Systems, Inc). This test is intended as an aid in the diagnosis of TV infections in individuals suspected of infection.

### Sensitivity and Specificity

1. The cobas® TV/MG test has  $\geq 95\%$  sensitivity for detecting:
  - a. *Trichomonas vaginalis* at concentrations between 0.05–0.3 cells/mL
2. Sensitivity and specificity by sample type are shown in the table below.

Sample type	Sensitivity	Specificity
Urine (female)	97.7%	98.7%
Vaginal swab (female)	99.4%	96.8%
Endocervical swab (female)	97.6%	98.1%
Urine (male)	100%	98.4%

### SPECIMENS ACCEPTED FOR TESTING

- Urine, vaginal swabs (female, self-collected or clinician-collected, endocervical swabs (female)
- cobas® collection kits are required for each specimen type

**Storage and Transport temperature:** 2-30°C (refrigerated or room temperature)

**Holding time:** Up to 12 months once transferred into cobas® PCR Media

**CPT code: 87661**