

Swabs: types and codes

Patient Request Forms and **Swabs** should be labelled with the body site from which the sample was taken. **This is important.** The swab site determines the appropriate culture media required to target the most likely pathogens.

SITE	CODE	SAMPLE TYPE
Culture Swabs		
Candida only swab	CANC	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Cervical swab	CERS	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Ear swab	EARS	Blue or Orange Micro Swab
Eye swab	EYES	Blue or Orange Micro Swab
Gonorrhoea	GONN	Black Charcoal Swab
High vaginal swab	HVS	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Nasal swab	NASS	Blue or Orange Micro Swab
Oral swab	ORSW	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Penile swab	PENS	Black or Orange Micro Swab
Rectal swab	RECG	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Skin swab	SKIS	Blue Micro Swab
Throat swab	THRS	Blue Micro Swab
Urethral swab	URES	Black or Orange Micro Swab
Vaginal swab	VAGS	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Vulval swab	VULV	Black or Blue Micro Swab
Wound swab	WOUS	Black or Blue Micro Swab

Blue Micro/Transwab

are multipurpose, culture swabs in transport medium

Orange Micro/Transwab

are small, thin wire culture swabs in transport medium

Black Charcoal Micro/Transwab

Wound, skin and urogenital.

MRSA by Culture

	MRSW	Blue Micro Swab x 1 – state site
	MRW2	Blue Micro Swab x 2 – state sites
	MRW3	Blue Micro Swab x 3 – state sites
	MRW4	Blue Micro Swab x 4 – state sites
	MRW5	Blue Micro Swab x 5 – state sites

Rapid MRSA by PCR

	MRSA	Blue Micro Swab x 1 – state site
	MRS2	Blue Micro Swab x 2 – state sites
	MRS3	Blue Micro Swab x 3 – state sites
	MRS4	Blue Micro Swab x 4 – state sites
	MRS5	Blue Micro Swab x 5 – state sites