



# Technical Bulletin

## Acceptable Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Source

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**TO:** Medical Staff and Clients

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**DATE:** April 22, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Acceptable specimen source for GBS testing

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In keeping with ACOG, AAP and ASM guidance, **vaginal/rectal** specimens are the **ONLY** acceptable source for GBS testing with the Cepheid Xpert GBS LB XC assay.

- Xpert GBS LB XC testing is indicated as an aid in determining the GBS colonization status for antepartum women.
- The Xpert GBS LB XC test, performed on the GeneXpert® Instrument Systems, is an automated qualitative in vitro diagnostic test for the detection of Group B Streptococcus (GBS) DNA from enriched **vaginal/rectal** swab specimens, using real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR).
- The Xpert GBS LB XC test is intended for antepartum testing on enriched Lim broth cultures of **vaginal/rectal** swabs after 18-24 hours of incubation.
- The Cepheid Xpert GBS LB XC assay is approved for use with **vaginal/rectal** specimens only.
- DLS requisitions will be updated to reflect **vaginal/rectal** as the appropriate source for GBS testing.

### REFERENCES

Cepheid GeneXpert Xpert® GBS LB XC Instructions For Use GXGBSLBXC-10. 302-4580, Rev. B. October 2022.

Filkins L, Hauser J, Robinson-Dunn B, Tibbetts R, Boyanton B, Revell P. 2020 (updated July 2021). Guidelines for detection and identification of group B streptococcus. American Society for Microbiology. <https://asm.org/guideline/guidelines-for-the-detection-and-identification-of>

Prevention of group B streptococcal early-onset disease in newborns. ACOG Committee Opinion No. 797. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Obstet Gynecol 2020;135:e51-72.

Please refer any questions to Tori Enomoto, Manager - DLS Microbiology Lab at 808-441-5470,  
or DLS Client Services at 808-589-5101.

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