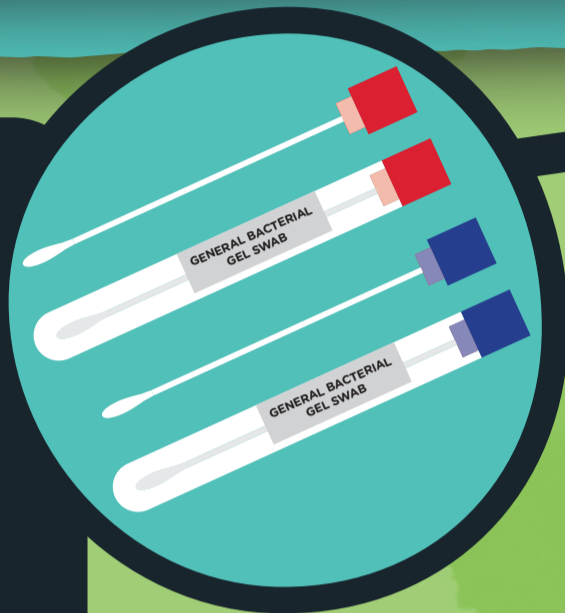


HOW TO SWAB FOR RHEUMATIC FEVER

PICK YOUR BACTERIAL SWAB

It's **important** to use the **correct swab** when testing for Strep A.

General Bacterial Gel Swab
Red/Blue cap swab with a clear gel medium.



LOCATE WHERE TO SWAB & COLLECT SAMPLE

Determine appropriate **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** and **clean hands** prior to donning PPE.

AFTER SWAB COLLECTION

- Place swab into gel medium
- Ensure specimen is labelled immediately after collection
- Place labelled swab into **biohazard bag** along with **pathology request form**
- Store and transport at **room temperature**
- Remove **PPE** and **clean hands**



Throat:

- Ensure **back of throat** or **tonsils** are swabbed, **NOT** the tongue or cheeks
- Sit patient **comfortably upright** with head supported
- **Rotate swab slowly** for **5-10 seconds** and then withdraw swab



Skin:

- **Clean skin** with normal saline to remove debris/ slough prior to swab
- **Press and rotate swab** several times to extract fluid
- **Avoid touching the swab** to the outside edges of the wounds
- **DO NOT** swab from a wound dressing or pooled exudate

