

Vaginitis PCR Testing – Replacing Bacterial Vaginosis Gram Stain

Orderable: Vaginitis PCR Testing [LAB1233948]

Effective January 19, 2026, the Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) Gram Stain will be discontinued and replaced with Vaginitis PCR Testing.

The Vaginitis PCR Testing detects the most common causes of vaginitis and vaginosis, which are 1) bacterial vaginosis (BV) caused by overgrowth of one or more anaerobic bacteria, 2) vulvovaginal candidiasis, and 3) trichomoniasis. Molecular-based assays to detect the most predictive marker organisms of BV offer increased sensitivity and specificity compared to the BV Gram-stain. Testing is performed at the VCU Health main campus in Richmond.

The Vaginitis PCR Testing will detect and report the following results:

1. Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)
2. *Candida* species group
 - Individual species are not reported, but detects: *C. albicans*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. parapsilosis*, and *C. dubliniensis*
3. *Candida glabrata/krusei*
 - These *Candida* species are reported separately from the *Candida* species group due to their known antifungal resistance profiles
4. *Trichomonas vaginalis*

Turn-around-time: 4hrs from specimen arrival in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory

Specimen Types: Endocervix, Vagina

Collection Container: Xpert® Vaginal/ Endocervical Specimen Collection Kit (Pink Top)

Workday # 129641



For questions, please contact Pathology Client Services at (804) 828-7284, Microbiology at (804) 628-4000, or the Main Campus Microbiology Director on-call pager at 9075.