Female Swab Collection Protocol for Vaginal Samples

1. Insert one swab into vagina***. Note: Do NOT pre-wet swab in PCR media.
2. Gently rotate the swab for 30 seconds and carefully withdraw.
3. Remove cap from the cobas® PCR Media tube.
4. Lower the swab specimen into the tube until the visible dark line on the swab shaft in aligned with the tube rim.
5. Carefully leverage the swab against the tube rim to break the swab at the dark line; discard the top shaft of the swab. Use care to avoid splashing the contents.
6. Tightly re-cap the tube. Specimen is ready for transport to lab for testing.

***Note: For endocervical samples, the excess mucus from the exocervix MUST be removed and discarded using one of the swabs provided. The second swab is used to collect the sample.

Specimen Transport and Storage:

Following specimen collection, transport and store the cobas® PCR Media tube containing the collected specimen swab at 2°C to 30°C. The collected specimen is stable for 90 days.