Plastic Spatula and Endocervical Brush Protocol

- Note expiry date on sample collection vial.
- Do not use expired vials or vials with less than 6 weeks expiry.
- Prepare all equipment before starting the procedure.
- Ensure the entire plastic seal is removed from the lid of the vial and discarded.
- Remove the lid from the vial before taking the sample.
- If lubrication of the speculum is required, please use warm water. The use of lubricant may interfere with pathology tests. However, if necessary a small amount of water-soluble carbomer-free lubricant should be applied sparingly to the outer/lateral blades of the speculum, avoiding the tip.
- Do not use an endocervical brush during pregnancy.
- Do not use an endocervical brush in isolation.
- Do not detach any sampling device heads in to the vial.

**Record** the patient’s full name and date of birth on the vial as required by local regulations. The patient information and medical history should be recorded on the pathology request form.

**Obtain** an adequate sample from the ectocervix using a plastic spatula. Select the contoured end of the plastic spatula and rotate it 360° in a clockwise direction around the entire ectocervix, while maintaining tight contact with ectocervical surface.

**Rinse** the plastic spatula immediately into the vial by swirling the spatula **vigorously** in the vial 10 times. Discard the plastic spatula.

**Obtain** an adequate sampling from the endocervix using an endocervical brush device. Insert the Cytobrush into the endocervical canal until only the bottom-most bristles are exposed. Slowly rotate 1/4 or 1/2 turn in one direction. **Do not over-rotate the brush.**

**Rinse** the endocervical brush immediately in the same vial by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing it against the vial wall. As a final step, swirl the brush **vigorously** to further release material. Discard the brush.

**Tighten** the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial. **Do not over-tighten.** Place the vial and pathology request form in a specimen bag for transport to the laboratory.

Note: Certain molecular tests, such as CT/GC, TV, M gen, can be performed from the same material collected for the Cervical Screening Test from the ThinPrep vial. Contact your laboratory for more information. Storage and transport of the ThinPrep Vial to the laboratory should be between 15 - 30°C.
Obtain an adequate sample from the transformation zone of the cervix using a cervical sampler (broom-like device). Insert the central bristles of the broom into the endocervical canal deep enough to allow the shorter bristles to fully contact the ectocervix. Push gently, and rotate the brush 360° in a clockwise direction 3-5 times. 

Rinse the cervical sampler immediately into the vial by pushing it into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart. As a final step, swirl the brush vigorously to further release material. Visually inspect the cervical sampler to ensure that no material remains attached. Discard the collection device. Do not leave the head of the cervical sampler in the vial.

Record the patient’s full name and date of birth on the vial as required by local regulations. The patient information and medical history should be recorded on the pathology request form.

Tighten the cap so that the black torque line on the cap passes the black torque line on the vial. Do not over-tighten. Place the vial and pathology request form in a specimen bag for transportation to the laboratory.

Note: Certain molecular tests, such as CT/GC, TV, M.gen, can be performed from the same material collected for the Cervical Screening Test from the ThinPrep vial. Contact your laboratory for more information. Storage and transport of the ThinPrep Vial to the laboratory should be between 15 - 30°C.