

How to take an anal swab

IMPORTANT

Remove the swab and return tube from the package carefully

- Do not touch the soft tip of the swab
- Do not lay the swab down.
- Do not pre wet the swab with the collection media or any other liquid or saliva, before taking the sample
- Do not touch or pierce the foil lid.

Ask for a new test kit:

- If the soft tip is touched.
- If the swab is laid down, or dropped.
- If the fluid is spilt.
- If the swab breaks incorrectly.

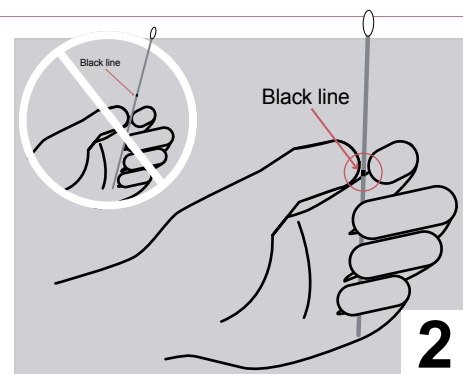


What the nurse will give you:

- A swab
- A clinician labelled swab tube
- A ziplock plastic bag

Start:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before taking the swab
- Dry your hands thoroughly.



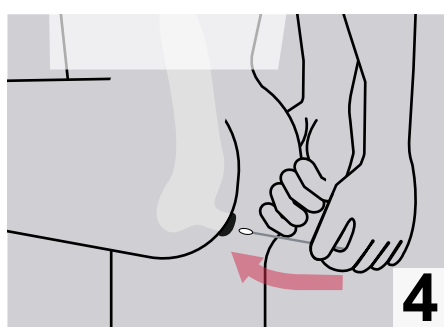
Holding the swab:

- Take the swabs out of the package
- Placing your thumb and forefinger in the middle of the swab shaft covering the score line
- Do not hold the swab shaft below the score line (black line).



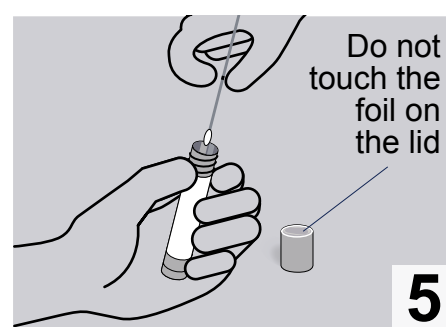
Taking the sample 1:

- Get in a position that allows you to comfortably access your bum (putting your foot on the step helps)
- Pull one bum cheek to the side



Taking the sample 2:

- Hold the swab tightly and slowly insert the soft tip into your anus 3-4 cm
- Twist the swab slowly for 5-10 seconds and pull it out of your anus.

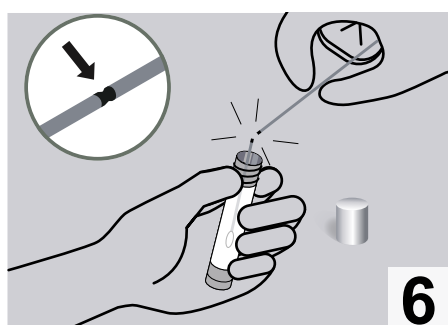


Return to swab tube:

- Open the lid of the swab tube ensuring none of the liquid spills out.
- Place the swab back into the plastic tube.

Ask the nurse for a new test kit:

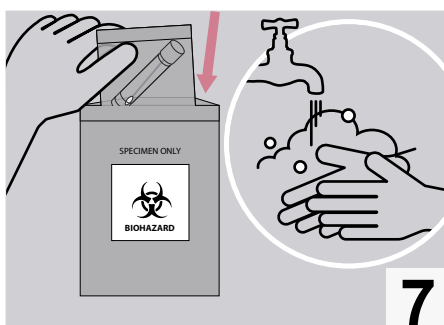
- If the fluid in the tube spills



Break the swab:

- Carefully break the swab stick at the black mark (shown in circle diagram) against the side of the tube.
- Close the lid of the swab tube tightly

If the swab breaks incorrectly or you pierce the foil lid, please return to the nurse and get another kit.



Bagging up:

- Put the labelled tube in the small zip lock plastic bag, one sample per plastic bag.
- If you have other samples to take, place the sealed ziplock anal sample into the larger plastic bag with the other samples

Wash Hands:

- Wash you hands again with soap and water.



Finish:

- Return the sealed plastic bags and their contents as instructed.