

Central Vermont Medical Center

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

**PROCEDURE FOR USING CULTURETTES
(AEROBIC CULTURES)**

1. Peel open the BBL CultureSwab pouch.
2. Remove the cap from the transport tube.
3. Remove the applicator swab and collect the sample. The applicator tip should only touch the area where the infection is suspected to minimize possible contamination.
4. Replace the applicator swab into the transport tube.
5. Label the patient name and date of birth on tube label.
6. Send specimen to laboratory for analysis.
7. BBL CultureSwab devices maintain a viability of most organisms for 24-48 hours, however fastidious organisms such as *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* should be transported to the lab and cultured within 24 hours.

REFERENCE:

BBL CultureSwab insert sheet, cat# B4320099