

ALGORITHM

«Speculum examination and STI testing»

1. **Preparation:** The patient must have an empty bladder.
2. **Greet**, present yourself, and confirm the patient's details (the name and age), explain the main point and course of examination and get permission on realization.
3. **Position:** a woman is in supine position with head elevated 30 to 45 degrees, legs flexed on abdomen, feet in stirrups, thighs apart. Patient must be appropriately gownned and draped.
4. Wash hands, put on sterile gloves.
5. **Examination:**
 - 5.1. Take the speculum by dominant hand, put blades between index and middle fingers.
 - 5.2. Separate the labia by index finger and thumb of non-dominant hand.
 - 5.3. By dominant hand gently insert the closed speculum with blades at oblique angle direct at a 45-degree downward angle into the vagina, rotate speculum so that blades are horizontal, open blades and lock blades into position and open the speculum blades until an optimal view of the cervix. Intercept the speculum by non-dominant hand and hold speculum in this way during the whole examination. Examine cervix for color, size, position, shape of os, surface of cervix, drainage or discharge from the os and vaginal wall for color and discharge.
6. **Collection** of the sample for:
 - 6.1. *Simple smear*: by dominant hand insert a sterile spatula into the vagina and collect a sample of vaginal discharge from posterior or lateral fornix.
 - 6.2. *Endocervical Chlamydia Swab*: by dominant hand remove testing swab from the tube and gently insert it into the endocervix by approximately 5 mm, rotate the swab for 10-15 seconds and remove it.
 - 6.3. *Endocervical Gonorrhea Swab*: by dominant hand remove testing swab from the tube and gently insert it into the endocervix by approximately 5 mm, rotate the swab for 10-15 seconds and remove it
7. **Placement of the sample**
 - 7.1. *Simple smear*: put obtained material onto the glass.
 - 7.2. *Endocervical Chlamydia Swab*: break off the testing swab into the transport tube.
 - 7.3. *Endocervical Gonorrhea Swab*: break off the testing swab into the transport tube.
8. **Remove the speculum:** by dominant hand loose the locking nut, close speculum blades, rotate speculum 90° back to its original insertion orientation and gently remove inspecting the walls of the vagina as you do so.
9. **Label** the material and send to lab.
10. **Provide** information to the woman about the results of examination.
11. **Fill in** the case history.
12. **Interpret** obtained results.