

ALGORITHM

«Speculum examination and collection the sample for Pap-testing»

1. **Preparation:** The patient must have an empty bladder.
2. **Introduction:** introduce yourself, confirm the patient's details (name, date of birth), explain the procedure, and ask permission to perform it.
3. **Position:** Supine position with head elevated 30 to 45 degrees, legs flexed on abdomen, feet in stirrups, thighs apart. Patient must be appropriately gowned 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. 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. *conventional Pap smear using the endocervical brush:* by dominant hand insert brush into the endocervix, rotate it 180° and remove it
 - 6.2. *conventional Pap smear using the Ayre spatula:* by dominant hand insert the notched end of the spatula that corresponds to the contour of the cervix into the endocervix and rotate on 360° around the circumference of the cervical os, retaining the sample on the upper surface of the spatula.
 - 6.3. *liquid-based preparations using the "broom-like" device:* by dominant hand the central bristles of the broom insert into the endocervical canal until the lateral bristles bend fully against the ectocervix, rotate it on 360° in the same direction five (5) times while maintaining gentle pressure, remove the broom and with a single paint stroke motion.
7. **Placement** of the sample
 - 7.1. *for conventional Pap smear using the cytobrush:* roll the endocervical brush along the labeled slide surface by turning the brush handle and slightly bending the bristles with gentle pressure, rapidly fix the entire slide by immersion or spray.
 - 7.2. *for conventional Pap smear using the Ayre spatula:* evenly and thinly spread the sample on the spatula lengthwise down on the labeled slide surface as thin as possible, using a single uniform motion, rapidly fix the entire slide by immersion or spray.
 - 7.3. *for liquid-based preparations using the "broom-like" device:* rinse the broom in the specimen vial.
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. **Explain** result of examination to the patient.
11. **Fill in** the case history.
12. **Interpret** obtained results.