



St. John Health Laboratories Point of Care Testing

pH by AmnioTest



Point of Care Testing

- Clinical testing that is performed outside the laboratory by non-lab associates
- Performed under the laboratory's CLIA certificate and subject to regulatory guidelines
- Must meet Joint Commission and CAP accreditation standards



Accreditation Requirements

- Initial Training includes:
 - FOB PowerPoint Presentation
 - Exam on Resident Website
- Annual Competency:
 - Take exam(s) on SJH Learning Institute
 - Compliance Monitored by Dept. Resident Coordinator



Important Note:

- Standard Precautions should be followed during all phases of testing.
- Residents that have difficulty in discerning color should be restricted from performing pH AmnioTest. Occupational Health screens for color blindness.

pH by AmnioTest: Screening Test to detect ruptured membranes

- Swab contains a nitrazine yellow dye which develops color that corresponds to pH.
- Each box contains an AmnioTest Color Card for color comparison.





AmnioTest Swab Storage

- Store at room temperature. Avoid excessive heat.
- Store swab in original, sterile package.
- Expiration date appears on box and each individual swab wrapper.
- QC performed by either nursing or lab.

Specimen Collection

- During pelvic exam, place AmnioTest swab in posterior vaginal fornix without touching mucus plug and allow swab to remain in contact with tissue for **15 seconds**.

Cervical swab



Result Interpretation

- After 15 sec., remove swab and immediately compare color of the tip to the color card.





Result Interpretation

- pH 5.0 – 6.0: Suggests intact amniotic membrane
- pH 6.5 – 7.5: Suggests possible membrane rupture
- pH greater than 7.5: May be due to blood or cervical mucous contaminating sample.

Any patient result that is inconsistent with patient's clinical condition should be repeated.



Limitations

False Negatives:

- Improper collection of specimen.
- Membranes ruptured more than 24 hrs. prior to test.
- Leaking of amniotic fluid in small quantities.



Limitations

False Positives:

- Blood, cervical mucous, semen, vaginal infections, alkaline urine or alkaline antiseptics.



Result Documentation Regulatory Requirements:

Use the H & P section, T-Sheet, POCT Result Form or eCare to document ALL of the following:

pH AmnioTest: Test result/Interpretation
(Example: 6.5 – Ruptured Membrane)

Date:

Time:

Initials: