

Aptima® Trichomonas vaginalis Assay (Panther® System)

For *in vitro* diagnostic use.

Rx only

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General Information

Intended Use

The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay is an *in vitro* qualitative nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) for the detection of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) from *Trichomonas vaginalis* to aid in the diagnosis of trichomoniasis using the Panther System.

The assay may be used to test the following specimens from symptomatic or asymptomatic women: clinician-collected endocervical swabs, clinician-collected vaginal swabs, and specimens collected in PreservCyt Solution.

Summary and Explanation of the Test

Trichomonas vaginalis (TV) is the most common curable sexually transmitted disease (STD) agent in the United States, with an estimated 7.4 million new cases occurring annually (1, 2).

Infections in women cause vaginitis, urethritis, and cervicitis. Discharge and small hemorrhagic lesions may be present in the genitourinary tract. Complications can include premature labor, low-birth-weight offspring, premature rupture of membranes, and post-abortion or post-hysterectomy infection. An association with pelvic inflammatory disease, tubal infertility, and cervical cancer with previous episodes of trichomoniasis has been reported. Symptomatic women with trichomoniasis usually complain of vaginal discharge, vulvovaginal soreness, and/or irritation. Dysuria is also common. However, it has been estimated that 10 to 50% of *T. vaginalis* infections in women are asymptomatic, and in men the proportion may even be higher (3, 4, 5).

Detection of *T. vaginalis* with traditional culture methods is technically challenging and requires up to 7 days. Immediate inoculation into the media is preferred, and proper incubation conditions are required in addition to frequent microscopic examinations of the media to successfully culture the protozoa. The sensitivity of culture has been estimated to range from 38% to 82% when compared to molecular methods due to problems visualizing low numbers of the organisms or the motility of the protozoa (6, 7).

T. vaginalis may also be detected using “wet-mount” preparation by mixing vaginal secretions with saline on a slide and examining the slide under a microscope. However, the wet-mount method is only 35% to 80% sensitive compared with culture (7). The sensitivity of the wet-mount method is highly dependent on the experience of the microscopist as well as the time of specimen transport to the laboratory.

The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay is a nucleic acid test that utilizes Target Capture, Transcription-Mediated Amplification (TMA), and Hybridization Protection Assay (HPA) technologies.

Principles of the Procedure

The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay involves the technologies of target capture, transcription-mediated amplification (TMA), and hybridization protection assay (HPA).

Specimens are collected and transferred into their respective specimen transport tubes. The transport solution in these tubes releases the rRNA target and protects it from degradation during storage. When the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay is performed in the laboratory, the target rRNA is isolated from the specimens by the use of a specific capture oligomer and magnetic microparticles in a method called target capture. The capture oligomer contains a

sequence complementary to a specific region of the target molecule as well as a string of deoxyadenosine residues. During the hybridization step, the sequence-specific region of the capture oligomer binds to a specific region of the target molecule. The capture oligomer:target complex is then captured out of solution by decreasing the temperature of the reaction to room temperature. This temperature reduction allows hybridization to occur between the deoxyadenosine region on the capture oligomer and the poly-deoxythymidine molecules that are covalently attached to the magnetic particles. The microparticles, including the captured target molecule bound to them, are pulled to the side of the reaction vessel using magnets and the supernatant is aspirated. The particles are washed to remove residual specimen matrix that may contain amplification inhibitors. After the target capture steps are completed, the specimens are ready for amplification.

Target amplification assays are based on the ability of complementary oligonucleotide primers to specifically anneal and allow enzymatic amplification of the target nucleic acid strands. The Hologic TMA reaction amplifies a specific region of the small ribosomal subunit from *T. vaginalis* via DNA and RNA intermediates and generates RNA amplicon molecules. Detection of the rRNA amplification product sequences is achieved using nucleic acid hybridization (HPA). A single-stranded chemiluminescent DNA probe, which is complementary to a region of the target amplicon, is labeled with an acridinium ester molecule. The labeled DNA probe combines with amplicon to form stable RNA:DNA hybrids. The Selection Reagent differentiates hybridized from unhybridized probe, eliminating the generation of signal from unhybridized probe. During the detection step, light emitted from the labeled RNA:DNA hybrids is measured as photon signals in a luminometer and are reported as Relative Light Units (RLU).

Warnings and Precautions

- A. For *in vitro* diagnostic use.
- B. For additional specific warnings and precautions, refer to the *Panther System Operator's Manual*.

Laboratory Related

- C. Use only supplied or specified disposable laboratory ware.
- D. Use routine laboratory precautions. Do not eat, drink or smoke in designated work areas. Wear disposable, powderless gloves, protective eye wear, and laboratory coats when handling specimens and kit reagents. Wash hands thoroughly after handling specimens and kit reagents.
- E. **Warning: Irritant and Corrosive.** Avoid contact of Auto Detect 2 with skin, eyes and mucous membranes. If this fluid comes into contact with skin or eyes, wash with water. If the fluid spills, dilute the spill with water before wiping dry.
- F. Work surfaces, pipettes, and other equipment must be regularly decontaminated with 2.5% to 3.5% (0.35M to 0.5M) sodium hypochlorite solution.

Specimen Related

- G. Expiration dates for the specimen transfer kits pertain to the collection/transfer of specimens and not to specimen testing. Specimens collected/transferred any time prior to these expiration dates are valid for testing provided they have been transported and stored in


accordance with the package insert, even if the expiration date on the transfer tube has passed.

- H. Specimens may be infectious. Use Universal Precautions when performing this assay. Proper handling and disposal methods should be established by the laboratory director. Only personnel adequately trained in handling infectious materials should be permitted to perform this diagnostic procedure.
- I. Avoid cross-contamination during the specimen handling steps. Specimens can contain extremely high levels of organisms. Ensure that specimen containers do not contact one another, and discard used materials without passing over any container. Change gloves if they come in contact with specimen.
- J. Upon piercing, liquid can discharge from Aptima transfer tube caps under certain conditions. Refer to the appropriate *Test Procedure* for more information.
- K. Maintain proper storage conditions during specimen shipping to ensure the integrity of the specimen. Specimen stability under shipping conditions other than those recommended has not been evaluated.
- L. If the lab receives a swab specimen transport tube with no swab, two swabs, a cleaning swab, or a swab not supplied by Hologic, the specimen must be rejected.

Assay Related

- M. Store reagents at the specified temperatures. Performance of the assay may be affected by use of improperly stored reagents.
- N. Use Universal Precautions when handling controls.
- O. Avoid microbial and ribonuclease contamination of reagents.
- P. Do not use kit after its expiration date.
- Q. Do not interchange, mix, or combine assay reagents from kits with different lot numbers. Controls and assay fluids may be interchanged.
- R. Some reagents in this kit are labeled with risk and safety symbols.

Note: For information on any hazard and precautionary statements that may be associated with reagents, refer to the SDS on the Safety Data Sheet Library at www.hologic.com/sds.

	Selection Reagent Boric Acid 1-5%
	WARNING H315 - Causes skin irritation H319 - Causes serious eye irritation P264 - Wash face, hands and any exposed skin thoroughly after handling P280 - Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection P305 + P351 + P338 - IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing P337 + P313 - If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention P302 + P352 - IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water P332 + P313 - If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention P362 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse

Reagent Storage and Handling Requirements

- A. The following reagents are stable when stored at 2°C to 8°C:
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Amplification Reagent
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Enzyme Reagent
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Probe Reagent
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay Target Capture Reagent B
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Controls
- B. The following reagents are stable when stored at room temperature (15°C to 30°C):
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Amplification Reconstitution Solution
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Enzyme Reconstitution Solution
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Probe Reconstitution Solution
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Target Capture Reagent
 - Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Selection Reagent
- C. After reconstitution, Amplification Reagent, Enzyme Reagent, and Probe Reagent are stable for 60 days when stored at 2°C to 8°C.
- D. Working Target Capture Reagent (wTCR) is stable for 60 days when stored at 15°C to 30°C. Do not refrigerate.
- E. Discard any unused reconstituted reagents and wTCR after 60 days, or after the Master Lot expiration date, whichever comes first.
- F. Controls are stable until the date indicated on the vials.
- G. Reagents stored on-board the Panther System have 72 hours of on-board stability.
- H. Avoid cross-contamination during reagent handling and storage. Recap all reconstituted reagents with new reagent caps each time prior to storage.
- I. The Probe Reagent and Reconstituted Probe Reagent are photosensitive. Store the reagents protected from light.
- J. **Do not freeze reagents.**

Specimen Collection and Storage

The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay is designed to detect the presence of *T. vaginalis* in clinician-collected endocervical and vaginal swab specimens and PreservCyt liquid Pap specimens. Performance with specimens other than those collected with the following specimen collection kits has not been evaluated:

- Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens
- Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit
- Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit (for use with gynecological samples collected in PreservCyt Solution prior to cytology processing)

A. Instructions for collection

1. Refer to the appropriate specimen collection kit package insert for specific collection instructions.

B. Specimen transport and storage before testing:

1. Swab specimens
 - a. After collection, transport and store the swab in the swab specimen transport tube at 2°C to 30°C until tested.
 - b. Assay specimens within 60 days of collection. If longer storage is needed, freeze the specimen transport tube at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for up to 24 months.
2. Specimens collected in PreservCyt Solution
 - a. Transport and store the PreservCyt Solution specimen at 2°C to 30°C for up to 30 days.
 - b. Specimens collected in PreservCyt Solution must be transferred into an Aptima specimen transfer tube according to the instructions in the Aptima Specimen Transfer kit package insert.
 - c. After transfer to an Aptima specimen transfer tube, specimens may be stored an additional 14 days at 15°C to 30°C or 30 days at 2°C to 8°C.
 - d. If longer storage is needed, the PreservCyt Solution specimen or the PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen diluted into the specimen transfer tube may be stored at $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ for up to 24 months after transfer.

C. Specimen storage after testing:

1. Specimens that have been assayed must be stored upright in a rack.
2. The specimen transport tubes should be covered with a new, clean plastic film or foil barrier.
3. If assayed samples need to be frozen or shipped, remove penetrable cap and place new non-penetrable caps on the specimen transport tubes. If specimens need to be shipped for testing at another facility, recommended temperatures must be maintained. Prior to uncapping, specimen transport tubes must be centrifuged for 5 minutes at 420 RCF (Relative Centrifugal Force) to bring all of the liquid down to the bottom of the tube. **Avoid splashing and cross-contamination.**

Note: Specimens must be shipped in accordance with applicable national and international transportation regulations.

Panther System

Reagents for the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay are listed below for the Panther® System. Reagent Identification Symbols are also listed next to the reagent name.

Reagents and Materials Provided

Note: For information on any hazard and precautionary statements that may be associated with reagents, refer to the Safety Data Sheet Library at www.hologicsds.com.

Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay (Panther System) Kit

250 tests (2 boxes and 1 Controls kit) (Cat. No. 303537)

100 tests (2 boxes and 1 Controls kit) (Cat. No. 303536)

Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay Refrigerated Box (Box 1 of 2) (store at 2°C to 8°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity	
		250-test kit	100-test kit
A	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Amplification Reagent <i>Primers and nucleotides dried in buffered solution containing < 5% bulking agent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
E	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Enzyme Reagent <i>Reverse transcriptase and RNA polymerase dried in HEPES buffered solution containing < 10% bulking reagent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
P	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Probe Reagent <i>Chemiluminescent DNA probes dried in succinate buffered solution containing < 5% detergent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
TCR-B	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Assay Target Capture Reagent B <i>Buffered solution containing < 5% detergent.</i>	1 x 0.56 mL	1 x 0.30 mL

Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay Room Temperature Box (Box 2 of 2)
(store at room temperature, 15°C to 30°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity	
		250-test kit	100-test kit
AR	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Amplification Reconstitution Solution <i>Aqueous solution containing preservatives.</i>	1 x 27.7 mL	1 x 11.9 mL
ER	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Enzyme Reconstitution Solution <i>HEPES buffered solution containing a surfactant and glycerol.</i>	1 x 11.1 mL	1 x 6.3 mL
PR	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Probe Reconstitution Solution <i>Succinate buffered solution containing < 5% detergent.</i>	1 x 35.4 mL	1 x 15.2 mL
S	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Selection Reagent <i>600 mM borate buffered solution containing surfactant.</i>	1 x 108 mL	1 x 43.0 mL
TCR	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Target Capture Reagent <i>Buffered solution containing capture oligomers and magnetic particles.</i>	1 x 54.0 mL	1 x 26.0 mL
	Reconstitution Collars	3	3
	Master Lot Barcode Sheet	1 sheet	1 sheet

Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Controls Kit
(store at 2°C to 8°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity
NC	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Negative Control <i>Non-infectious non-target nucleic acid in a buffered solution containing < 5% detergent.</i>	5 x 1.7 mL
PC	Aptima <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> Positive Control <i>Non-infectious <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> organisms in buffered solution containing < 5% detergent.</i>	5 x 1.7 mL

Materials Required But Available Separately

Note: Materials available from Hologic have catalog numbers listed, unless otherwise specified.

	<u>Cat. No.</u>
Panther System	303095
Aptima Assay Fluids Kit <i>(Aptima Wash Solution, Aptima Buffer for Deactivation Fluid, and Aptima Oil Reagent)</i>	303014 (1000 tests)
Aptima Auto Detect Kit	303013 (1000 tests)
Multi-tube units (MTUs)	104772-02
Panther Waste Bag Kit	902731
Panther Waste Bin Cover	504405
Or Panther Run Kit <i>contains MTUs, waste bags, waste bin covers, assay fluids, and auto detects</i>	303096 (5000 tests)
Tips, 1000 µL conductive, liquid sensing	10612513 (Tecan)
Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit <i>for use with specimens in PreservCyt Solution</i>	301154C
Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit — printable <i>for use with specimens in PreservCyt Solution</i>	PRD-05110
Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit	PRD-03546
Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens	301041
Bleach, 5% to 7% (0.7 M to 1.0 M) sodium hypochlorite solution	—
Disposable gloves	—
SysCheck calibration standard	301078
Aptima penetrable caps	105668
Replacement non-penetrable caps	103036A
Replacement Caps for the 250-test kits <i>Amplification and Probe reagent reconstitution solutions</i>	—
	<i>CL0041 (100 caps)</i>
<i>Enzyme Reagent reconstitution solution</i>	<i>501616 (100 caps)</i>
<i>TCR and Selection reagent</i>	<i>CL0040 (100 caps)</i>
Replacement Caps for 100-test kits	—
<i>Amplification, Enzyme, and Probe reagent reconstitution solutions</i>	<i>CL0041 (100 caps)</i>
<i>TCR and Selection reagent</i>	<i>501604 (100 caps)</i>

Optional Materials

	<u>Cat. No.</u>
Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Controls Kit	302807
Hologic Bleach Enhancer for Cleaning <i>for routine cleaning of surfaces and equipment</i>	302101
Tube rocker	—

Panther System Test Procedure

Note: See the Panther System Operator's Manual for additional Panther System procedural information.

A. Work Area Preparation

1. Clean work surfaces where reagents and samples will be prepared. Wipe down work surfaces with 2.5% to 3.5% (0.35 M to 0.5 M) sodium hypochlorite solution. Allow the sodium hypochlorite solution to contact surfaces for at least 1 minute and then follow with a water rinse. Do not allow the sodium hypochlorite solution to dry. Cover the bench surface on which the reagents and samples will be prepared with clean, plastic-backed absorbent laboratory bench covers.

B. Reagent Reconstitution/Preparation of a New Kit

Note: Reagent reconstitution should be performed prior to beginning any work on the Panther System.

1. To reconstitute Amplification, Enzyme, and Probe Reagents, combine the bottles of lyophilized reagent with the reconstitution solution. If refrigerated, allow the reconstitution solutions to reach room temperature before use.
 - a. Pair each reconstitution solution with its lyophilized reagent. Ensure that the reconstitution solution and reagent have matching label colors before attaching the reconstitution collar.
 - b. Check the lot numbers on the Master Lot Barcode Sheet to ensure that the appropriate reagents are paired.
 - c. Open the lyophilized reagent vial and firmly insert the notched end of the reconstitution collar into the vial opening (Figure 1, Step 1).
 - d. Open the matching reconstitution solution bottle, and set the cap on a clean, covered work surface.
 - e. While holding the reconstitution solution bottle on the bench, firmly insert the other end of the reconstitution collar into the bottle opening (Figure 1, Step 2).
 - f. Slowly invert the assembled bottles. Allow the solution to drain from the bottle into the glass vial (Figure 1, Step 3).
 - g. Thoroughly mix the solution in the glass vial by swirling (Figure 1, Step 4).
 - h. Wait for the lyophilized reagent to go into solution, then invert the assembled bottles again, tilting at a 45° angle to minimize foaming (Figure 1, Step 5). Allow all of the liquid to drain back into the plastic bottle.
 - i. Remove the reconstitution collar and glass vial (Figure 1, Step 6).

- j. Recap the plastic bottle. Record operator initials and reconstitution date on the label (Figure 1, Step 7).
- k. Discard the reconstitution collar and glass vial (Figure 1, Step 8).

Option: Additional mixing of the Amplification, Enzyme and Probe Reagents using a tube rocker is allowed. The reagents may be mixed by placing the recapped plastic bottle on a tube rocker set to 20 RPM (or equivalent) for a minimum of 5 minutes.

Warning: Avoid creating foam when reconstituting reagents. Foam compromises the level-sensing in the Panther System.

Warning: Adequate mixing of the reagents is necessary to achieve expected assay results.

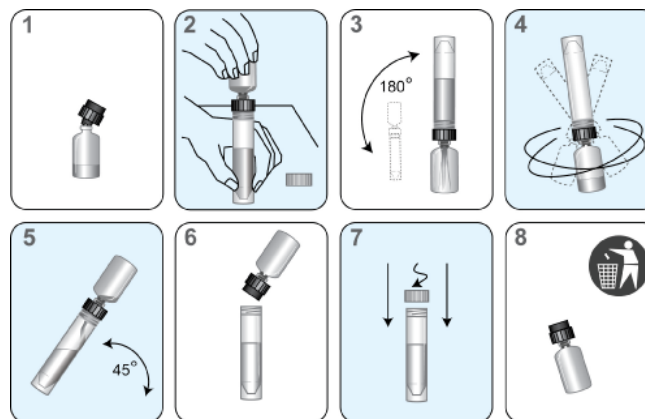


Figure 1. Panther System Reconstitution Process

2. Prepare Working Target Capture Reagent (wTCR)
 - a. Pair the appropriate bottles of TCR and TCR-B.
 - b. Check the reagent lot numbers on the Master Lot Barcode Sheet to make sure that the appropriate reagents in the kit are paired.
 - c. Open the bottle of TCR, and set the cap on a clean, covered work surface.
 - d. Open the bottle of TCR-B and pour the entire contents into the bottle of TCR. Expect a small amount of liquid to remain in the TCR-B bottle.
 - e. Cap the bottle of TCR and gently swirl the solution to mix the contents. Avoid creating foam during this step.
 - f. Record operator initials and the current date on the label.
 - g. Discard the TCR-B bottle and cap.
3. Prepare Selection Reagent
 - a. Check the lot number on the reagent bottle to make sure that it matches the lot number on the Master Lot Barcode Sheet.
 - b. Record operator initials and the current date on the label.

Note: Thoroughly mix by gently inverting all reagents prior to loading on the system. Avoid creating foam during inversion of reagents.

C. Reagent Preparation for Previously Reconstituted Reagents

1. Previously reconstituted Amplification, Enzyme, and Probe Reagents must reach room temperature (15°C to 30°C) prior to the start of the assay.

Option: The reagents may be brought to room temperature on a tube rocker by placing the reconstituted Amplification, Enzyme and Probe Reagents on a tube rocker set to 20 RPM (or equivalent) for a minimum of 25 minutes.

2. If reconstituted Probe Reagent contains precipitate that does not return to solution at room temperature, heat the capped bottle at a temperature that does not exceed 62°C for 1 to 2 minutes. After this heat step, the Probe Reagent may be used even if residual precipitate remains. Mix Probe Reagent by inversion, being careful not to induce foam, prior to loading onto the system.
3. Thoroughly mix each reagent by gently inverting prior to loading on the system. Avoid creating foam during inversion of reagents. This step is not required if reagents are loaded onto the system directly after mixing on the tube rocker.
4. Do not top off reagent bottles. The Panther System will recognize and reject bottles that have been topped off.

Warning: Adequate mixing of the reagents is necessary to achieve expected assay results.

D. Specimen Handling

1. Allow the controls and specimens to reach room temperature prior to processing.
2. **Do not vortex specimens.**
3. Visually confirm that each specimen tube meets one of the following criteria:
 - a. The presence of a single blue Aptima collection swab in a unisex swab specimen transport tube.
 - b. The presence of a single pink Aptima collection swab in a multitest or vaginal swab specimen transport tube.
 - c. The absence of a swab in the Aptima specimen transport tube for PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens.
4. Inspect specimen tubes before loading into rack:
 - a. If a specimen tube contains bubbles in the space between the liquid and the cap, centrifuge the tube for 5 minutes at 420 RCF to eliminate the bubbles.
 - b. If a specimen tube has a lower volume than typically observed when collection instructions have been followed, centrifuge the tube for 5 minutes at 420 RCF to ensure that no liquid is in the cap.

Note: Failure to follow Steps 4a-4b may result in liquid discharge from the specimen tube cap.

Note: Up to 4 separate aliquots can be tested from each specimen tube. Attempts to pipette more than 4 aliquots from the specimen tube can lead to processing errors.

E. System Preparation

1. Set up the system according to the instructions in the *Panther System Operator's Manual* and *Procedural Notes*.
2. Load samples.

Procedural Notes

A. Controls

1. To work properly with the Panther Aptima Assay software, one pair of controls is required. The Aptima Positive Control for Trichomonas and Aptima Negative Control for Trichomonas can be loaded in any rack position or in any Sample Bay Lane on the Panther System. Patient specimen pipetting will begin when one of the following two conditions has been met:
 - a. A pair of controls is currently being processed by the system.
 - b. Valid results for the controls are registered on the system.
2. Once the control tubes have been pipetted and are processing for a specific reagent kit, patient specimens can be run with the associated kit up to 24 hours **unless**:
 - a. Controls results are invalid.
 - b. The associated assay reagent kit is removed from the system.
 - c. The associated assay reagent kit has exceeded stability limits.
3. Each Aptima control tube can be tested once. Attempts to pipette more than once from the tube can lead to processing errors.

B. Temperature

Room temperature is defined as 15°C to 30°C.

C. Glove Powder

As in any reagent system, excess powder on some gloves may cause contamination of opened tubes. Powderless gloves are recommended.

D. Lab Contamination Monitoring Protocol for the Panther System

There are many laboratory-specific factors that may contribute to contamination, including testing volume, workflow, disease prevalence and various other laboratory activities. These factors should be taken into consideration when contamination monitoring frequency is being established. Intervals for contamination monitoring should be established based on each laboratory's practices and procedures.

To monitor for laboratory contamination, the following procedure may be performed using the Aptima Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens:

1. Label swab transport tubes with numbers corresponding to the areas to be tested.
2. Remove the specimen collection swab (blue shaft swab with green printing) from its packaging, wet the swab in the swab transport medium, and swab the designated area using a circular motion.
3. Immediately insert the swab into transport tube.
4. Carefully break the swab shaft at the score line; use care to avoid splashing of the contents.
5. Recap the swab transport tube tightly.
6. Repeat Steps 2 to 5 for each area to be swabbed.
7. Test samples with the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay on the Panther System.
8. Further investigation should be performed if any samples yield a positive result.

For test interpretation, see *Test Interpretation — QC/Patient Results*. For additional Panther System-specific contamination monitoring information, contact Hologic Technical Support.

Test Interpretation — QC/Patient Results

A. Test Interpretation

Assay test results are automatically interpreted by the Panther System Aptima Trichomonas Assay software. A test result may be negative, positive, or invalid as determined by total RLU in the detection step (see below). A test result may be invalid due to RLU values outside the normal expected ranges. Initial invalid test results should be retested. Report the first valid result.

Test Interpretation	Total RLU (x1000)
Negative	0* to < 100
Positive	100 to < 2400
Invalid	0* or ≥ 2400

*If the RLU measured on the Panther System is between 0 and 999, a result of "0" is reported in the "Total RLU (000s)" column in the run report. Measured RLU values less than 690 are reported as invalid. RLU values between 690 and 999 are reported as valid.

B. Quality Control Results and Acceptability

The Aptima Negative Control for Trichomonas, which is labeled "NC CONTROL – TRICH," and the Aptima Positive Control for Trichomonas, which is labeled "PC CONTROL + TRICH," act as controls for the target capture, amplification, and detection steps of the assay. In accordance with guidelines or requirements of national, regional, and/or local regulations or accrediting organizations, additional controls for cell lysis and RNA stabilization may be included. The Aptima Positive Control for Trichomonas which is labeled "PC CONTROL + TRICH" contains non-infectious *T. vaginalis* rRNA.

The Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Controls must produce the following test results:

Control	Total RLU (x1000)	<i>T. vaginalis</i> Result
NC Control – TRICH	0* and < 20	Negative
PC Control + TRICH	≥ 500 and < 2400	Positive

*If the RLU measured on the Panther System is between 0 and 999, a result of "0" is reported in the "Total RLU (000s)" column in the run report. Measured RLU values less than 690 are reported as invalid. RLU values between 690 and 999 are reported as valid.

Each laboratory should implement appropriate control procedures to satisfy the requirements of CLIA regulations (section 493.1256).

Note: For assistance with out-of-range controls, contact Hologic Technical Support.

Limitations

- A. Use of this assay is limited to personnel who have been trained in the procedure. Failure to follow the instructions given in this insert may result in erroneous results.
- B. The effects of tampon use, douching, and specimen collection variables have not been assessed for their impact on the detection of *Trichomonas vaginalis*.
- C. TV-positive mucoid samples may exhibit decreased RLU values. To ensure proper endocervical sampling, excess mucus should be removed.
- D. Vaginal swab and PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen sampling is not designed to replace cervical exams and endocervical specimens for diagnosis of female urogenital infections. Patients may have cervicitis, urethritis, urinary tract infections, or vaginal infections due to other causes or concurrent infections with other agents.
- E. This assay has been tested using only the specimen types indicated. Performance with other specimen types has not been evaluated.
- F. Reliable results are dependent on adequate specimen collection. Because the transport system used for this assay does not permit microscopic assessment of specimen adequacy, training of clinicians in proper specimen collection techniques is necessary. See *Specimen Collection and Storage* for instructions. For detailed information, refer to the appropriate instructions for use.
- G. Therapeutic failure or success cannot be determined with the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay since nucleic acid may persist following appropriate antimicrobial therapy.
- H. Results from the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay should be interpreted in conjunction with other clinical data available to the clinician.
- I. A negative result does not preclude a possible infection because results are dependent on adequate specimen collection. Test results may be affected by improper specimen collection, technical error, specimen mix-up, or target levels below the assay limit of detection.
- J. A negative result does not preclude a possible infection because the presence of *Trichomonas tenax* or *Pentatrichomonas hominis* in a specimen may affect the ability to detect *T. vaginalis* rRNA. See *Cross-Reactivity in the Presence of Microorganisms* for details.
- K. The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay provides qualitative results. Therefore, a correlation cannot be drawn between the magnitude of a positive assay signal and the number of organisms in a specimen.
- L. The Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay has not been validated for use with vaginal swab specimens collected by patients.
- M. Performance has not been evaluated in women less than 14 years of age.
- N. The performance of the Panther System has not been determined at altitudes above 2000 m (6561 feet).

- O. If a specimen has a small number of *T. vaginalis* organisms, uneven distribution of these trichomonads may occur, which may affect the ability to detect *T. vaginalis* rRNA in the collected material. If negative results from the specimen do not fit with the clinical impression, a new specimen may be necessary.
- P. Customers must independently validate an LIS transfer process.
- Q. Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay performance has not been evaluated with post-cytology processed specimens collected in PreservCyt Solution.

Expected Values

Prevalence

Estimates of the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* in different populations depend on the sensitivity of the test in detecting the infection and on patient risk factors such as age, lifestyle, and the presence or absence of symptoms. A summary of the prevalence of *T. vaginalis*, by specimen type, as determined by the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay during the Panther® System clinical study is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Prevalence of *T. vaginalis* as Determined by the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay by Specimen Type and Collection Site

Specimen Type	%									
	(# positive / # tested)									
	All Sites	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5	Site 6	Site 7	Site 8	Site 9
CVS	11.8 (80/678)	17.0 (9/53)	7.7 (4/52)	16.7 (2/12)	19.5 (8/41)	0.7 (1/145)	16.0 (12/75)	12.0 (21/175)	15.0 (12/80)	24.4 (11/45)
ES	11.2 (80/713)	20.4 (11/54)	8.9 (5/56)	12.5 (2/16)	17.1 (7/41)	0.6 (1/162)	20.2 (18/89)	9.1 (15/164)	13.3 (11/83)	20.8 (10/48)
PCyt	11.8 (93/790)	18.3 (11/60)	7.4 (5/68)	17.6 (3/17)	18.6 (8/43)	0.6 (1/167)	22.1 (23/104)	11.2 (22/197)	10.5 (9/86)	22.9 (11/48)

CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, ES = endocervical swab, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap.

Positive and Negative Predictive Values for Hypothetical Prevalence Rates

The estimated positive predictive value (PPV) and negative predictive value (NPV) of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay across different hypothetical prevalence rates are shown for each specimen type in Table 2. These calculations are based on the overall estimated sensitivity and specificity for each specimen type in the Panther System clinical study.

Table 2: Hypothetical PPV and NPV of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay by Specimen Type

Specimen Type	Prevalence (%)	PPV (%)	NPV (%)
CVS	1	35.4	100
	2	52.6	100
	5	74.1	100
	10	85.8	100
	15	90.6	100
	20	93.1	100
	25	94.8	100
ES	1	34.8	100
	2	51.8	100
	5	73.5	100
	10	85.4	100
	15	90.3	100
	20	93.0	100
	25	94.6	100

Table 2: Hypothetical PPV and NPV of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay by Specimen Type (continued)

PCyt	1	41.1	100
	2	58.5	100
	5	78.4	100
	10	88.5	100
	15	92.4	100
	20	94.5	100
	25	95.8	100

CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, ES = endocervical swab, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap.

The PPV and NPV are derived for different hypothetical prevalence rates using the sensitivity and specificity estimates from the clinical performance study. Sensitivity was 100% in vaginal swab, endocervical swab, and PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens. Specificity was 98.2% in vaginal swab specimens, 98.1% in endocervical swab specimens, and 98.6% in PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens.

Panther System Clinical Performance

Clinical Study

Clinical performance of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay on the Panther® System was evaluated using leftover specimens collected from consenting subjects during a previous, prospective, multicenter clinical study of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay on the Tigris DTS System. Symptomatic and asymptomatic women were enrolled from 9 US clinical sites, including obstetrics and gynecology, family planning, and STD clinics. Three (3) vaginal swab, 1 endocervical swab, and 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen were collected from each subject. All specimens were clinician-collected.

PreservCyt liquid Pap specimens were collected with a broom-type device or a spatula and cytobrush. Two of the vaginal swab specimens were tested with a commercially available culture system and wet mount microscopic examination to establish infected status. The remaining specimens were prepared for Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay testing in accordance with the appropriate Aptima specimen collection kit package insert instructions.

Panther System testing with the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay was conducted at 3 sites (2 external laboratories and Hologic) in accordance with package insert instructions.

Performance characteristics of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay were estimated by comparing results to a patient infected status algorithm. In the algorithm, the designation of a subject as being infected or non-infected with *T. vaginalis* was based on results from vaginal swab specimens tested by culture and/or wet mount microscopic examination. At least one of the reference test results was required to be positive to establish an infected patient status. Both reference tests were required to be negative to establish a non-infected patient status.

Twenty-three (23) Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay runs were initiated on the Panther System. Of these 23 runs, 1 (4.3%, 1/23) was aborted due to a fatal hardware error that led to a software failure. Specimens tested in the aborted run were retested. A total of 689 vaginal swab, 737 endocervical swab, and 791 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens were tested in the 22 valid runs. Of these specimens, 12 vaginal swab (1.7%, 12/689), 24 endocervical swab (3.3%, 24/737), and 29 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap (3.7%, 29/791) specimens had initial invalid results due to hardware or software errors. Specimens with initial invalid results were retested. Eleven (11) vaginal swab (1.6%, 11/689), 24 endocervical swab (3.3%, 24/737), and 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap (0.1%, 1/791) specimens had final invalid results due to hardware or software errors; these specimens were excluded from the analyses.

Table 3 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay on the Panther System and the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* (based on the infected status) in each specimen type by symptom status and overall. Subjects were classified as symptomatic if symptoms were reported by the subject. Subjects were classified as asymptomatic if the subject did not report symptoms. Prevalence was higher in symptomatic women.

Table 3: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay by Symptom Status

Specimen Type	Symptom Status	n	TP	FP ¹	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) ²	Specificity % (95% CI) ²	PPV % (95% CI) ³	NPV % (95% CI) ³
CVS	Asymptomatic	274	12	7 ^a	255	0	4.4	100 (75.8-100)	97.3 (94.6-98.7)	63.2 (45.8-80.9)	100 (98.8-100)
	Symptomatic	393	57	4 ^b	332	0	14.5	100 (93.7-100)	98.8 (97.0-99.5)	93.4 (84.9-98.1)	100 (98.9-100)
	All	667	69	11 ^c	587	0	10.3	100 (94.7-100)	98.2 (96.7-99.0)	86.3 (77.9-92.6)	100 (99.4-100)
ES	Asymptomatic	309	16	5 ^d	288	0	5.2	100 (80.6-100)	98.3 (96.1-99.3)	76.2 (58.1-90.8)	100 (98.9-100)
	Symptomatic	391	51	7 ^e	333	0	13.0	100 (93.0-100)	97.9 (95.8-99.0)	87.9 (78.1-94.7)	100 (99.0-100)
	All	700	67	12 ^f	621	0	9.6	100 (94.6-100)	98.1 (96.7-98.9)	84.8 (76.3-91.5)	100 (99.4-100)
PCyt	Asymptomatic	333	19	2 ^g	312	0	5.7	100 (83.2-100)	99.4 (97.7-99.8)	90.5 (72.6-98.7)	100 (98.9-100)
	Symptomatic	441	64	8 ^h	369	0	14.5	100 (94.3-100)	97.9 (95.9-98.9)	88.9 (80.4-94.9)	100 (99.1-100)
	All	774	83	10 ⁱ	681	0	10.7	100 (95.6-100)	98.6 (97.4-99.2)	89.2 (82.0-94.5)	100 (99.5-100)

CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, ES = endocervical swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, Prev = prevalence, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

¹Specimens were also tested by an alternative *T. vaginalis* NAAT assay with the following results (# positive results / # samples tested): a: 4/7, b: 3/4, c: 7/11, d: 1/5, e: 2/7, f: 3/12, g: 0/2, h: 3/8, i: 3/10.

²Score confidence interval.

³PPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval from the negative likelihood ratio.

Table 4 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay on the Panther System and the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* (based on the infected status) in each specimen type by collection site. For each specimen type, performance was similar across collection sites. Prevalence varied across collection sites, as expected.

Table 4: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay by Collection Site

Site	Specimen Type	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity (95% CI) ¹	Specificity (95% CI) ¹	PPV % (95% CI) ²	NPV % (95% CI) ²
1	CVS	52	8	1	43	0	15.4	100 (67.6-100)	97.7 (88.2-99.6)	88.9 (60.2-99.7)	100 (93.7-100)
	ES	53	9	2	42	0	17.0	100 (70.1-100)	95.5 (84.9-98.7)	81.8 (56.9-97.4)	100 (93.5-100)
	PCyt	59	11	0	48	0	18.6	100 (74.1-100)	100 (92.6-100)	100 (75.6-100)	100 (93.9-100)
2	CVS	52	3	1	48	0	5.8	100 (43.9-100)	98.0 (89.3-99.6)	75.0 (28.5-99.2)	100 (95.8-100)
	ES	56	4	1	51	0	7.1	100 (51.0-100)	98.1 (89.9-99.7)	80.0 (40.5-99.4)	100 (95.6-100)
	PCyt	68	5	0	63	0	7.4	100 (56.6-100)	100 (94.3-100)	100 (58.3-100)	100 (96.0-100)
3	CVS	12	2	0	10	0	16.7	100 (34.2-100)	100 (72.2-100)	100 (32.1-100)	100 (85.6-100)
	ES	16	2	0	14	0	12.5	100 (34.2-100)	100 (78.5-100)	100 (31.5-100)	100 (89.3-100)
	PCyt	17	2	1	14	0	11.8	100 (34.2-100)	93.3 (70.2-98.8)	66.7 (19.9-98.8)	100 (89.5-100)
4	CVS	41	7	1	33	0	17.1	100 (64.6-100)	97.1 (85.1-99.5)	87.5 (57.3-99.6)	100 (92.2-100)
	ES	41	7	0	34	0	17.1	100 (64.6-100)	100 (89.8-100)	100 (66.7-100)	100 (92.2-100)
	PCyt	43	7	1	35	0	16.3	100 (64.6-100)	97.2 (85.8-99.5)	87.5 (57.2-99.6)	100 (92.6-100)
5	CVS	145	1	0	144	0	0.7	100 (20.7-100)	100 (97.4-100)	100 (6.4-100)	100 (99.3-100)
	ES	162	1	0	161	0	0.6	100 (20.7-100)	100 (97.7-100)	100 (6.4-100)	100 (99.4-100)
	PCyt	167	1	0	166	0	0.6	100 (20.7-100)	100 (97.7-100)	100 (6.4-100)	100 (99.4-100)
6	CVS	67	10	2	55	0	14.9	100 (72.2-100)	96.5 (88.1-99.0)	83.3 (59.2-98.2)	100 (94.8-100)
	ES	80	13	4	63	0	16.3	100 (77.2-100)	94.0 (85.6-97.7)	76.5 (57.1-92.2)	100 (95.3-100)
	PCyt	92	20	3	69	0	21.7	100 (83.9-100)	95.8 (88.5-98.6)	87.0 (70.4-97.0)	100 (95.5-100)
7	CVS	173	18	3	152	0	10.4	100 (82.4-100)	98.1 (94.5-99.3)	85.7 (67.7-96.7)	100 (97.9-100)
	ES	161	12	3	146	0	7.5	100 (75.8-100)	98.0 (94.2-99.3)	80.0 (58.3-95.4)	100 (97.9-100)
	PCyt	194	18	4	172	0	9.3	100 (82.4-100)	97.7 (94.3-99.1)	81.8 (64.1-94.3)	100 (98.1-100)
8	CVS	80	10	2	68	0	12.5	100 (72.2-100)	97.1 (90.2-99.2)	83.3 (59.0-98.2)	100 (95.8-100)
	ES	83	9	2	72	0	10.8	100 (70.1-100)	97.3 (90.7-99.3)	81.8 (56.3-97.4)	100 (96.1-100)
	PCyt	86	9	0	77	0	10.5	100 (70.1-100)	100 (95.2-100)	100 (71.4-100)	100 (96.2-100)
9	CVS	45	10	1	34	0	22.2	100 (72.2-100)	97.1 (85.5-99.5)	90.9 (65.7-99.7)	100 (91.9-100)
	ES	48	10	0	38	0	20.8	100 (72.2-100)	100 (90.8-100)	100 (74.0-100)	100 (92.5-100)
	PCyt	48	10	1	37	0	20.8	100 (72.2-100)	97.4 (86.5-99.5)	90.9 (65.6-99.7)	100 (92.5-100)

CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, ES = endocervical swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, Prev = prevalence, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

¹Score confidence interval.

²PPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval from the negative likelihood ratio.

Table 5 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay on the Panther System and the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* (based on the infected status) in PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens by cervical collection device. For PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens, performance was similar across collection devices.

Table 5: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay in PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap Specimens by Collection Device Type

Collection Device	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity (95% CI) ¹	Specificity (95% CI) ¹	PPV % (95% CI) ²	NPV % (95% CI) ²
Broom-type Device	414	54	5	355	0	13.0	100 (93.4-100)	98.6 (96.8-99.4)	91.5 (82.4-97.1)	100 (99.0-100)
Spatula/Cytobrush	360	29	5	326	0	8.1	100 (88.3-100)	98.5 (96.5-99.4)	85.3 (71.5-94.7)	100 (99.0-100)

CI = confidence interval, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, Prev = prevalence, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

¹Score confidence interval.

²PPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% confidence interval computed from the exact 95% confidence interval from the negative likelihood ratio.

Agreement of Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay Results on the Panther System and the Tigris DTS System

It is recognized that device performance in an asymptomatic population is essential since the majority of individuals infected with *Trichomonas vaginalis* do not have symptoms. To further characterize performance of the assay in asymptomatic subjects, agreement between Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay results on the Panther System and the Tigris DTS System was assessed using prospectively collected specimens from asymptomatic subjects. Women were enrolled from 6 US clinical sites, including obstetrics and gynecology, family planning, and STD clinics. One (1) vaginal swab, 1 endocervical swab, and 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen were collected from each subject. All specimens were clinician-collected. PreservCyt liquid Pap specimens were collected with a broom-type device or a spatula and cytobrush.

Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay testing was conducted in accordance with the package insert instructions. Panther System testing was conducted at 3 sites (2 external laboratories and Hologic). Tigris DTS System testing was conducted at Hologic.

Eighteen (18) Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay runs were initiated on the Panther System; all were valid. A total of 227 vaginal swab, 227 endocervical swab, and 227 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens were tested. Of these specimens, 1 vaginal swab specimen (0.4%, 1/227) had an initial invalid result due to hardware error. The specimen with an initial invalid result was retested and had a valid result.

Of the samples with final valid Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay results on the Panther System, 227 vaginal swab, 227 endocervical swab, and 226 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens had valid, paired results on the Tigris DTS System.

Table 6 shows positive and negative percent agreements of Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay results on the Panther System and the Tigris DTS System in each specimen type for asymptomatic subjects.

Table 6: Agreement between Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay Results on the Panther System and the Tigris DTS System in Asymptomatic Subjects

Specimen Type	n	System					% Positive Agreement (95% CI) ²	% Negative Agreement (95% CI) ²
		Tigris + Panther +	Tigris - Panther +	Tigris - Panther -	Tigris + Panther -	Tigris Positivity		
CVS ¹	227	29	5	191	2	13.7	93.5 (79.3-98.2)	97.4 (94.2-98.9)
ES	227	28	1	198	0	12.3	100 (87.9-100)	99.5 (97.2-99.9)
PCyt	226	26	1	199	0	11.5	100 (87.1-100)	99.5 (97.2-99.9)

+ = positive, - = negative, CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, ES = endocervical swab, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap,

¹The 2 vaginal swab samples with positive Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay results on the Tigris DTS System and negative results on the Panther System were from subjects whose other samples had negative results on both the Panther System and the Tigris DTS System.

²Score confidence interval.

RLU Distribution of Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Controls

The distribution of the RLU values for the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Negative Control and the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Positive Control from all valid Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay runs performed during the clinical performance study of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay on the Panther System is presented in Table 7.

Table 7: RLU Distribution of Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Negative and Positive Controls

Control	Statistic	Total RLU (x1000)
Negative	N	22
	Mean	1.3
	SD	0.99
	Median	1.0
	Minimum	0
	Maximum	5
	CV%	75.5
Positive	N	22
	Mean	1262.3
	SD	45.89
	Median	1276.0
	Minimum	1168
	Maximum	1322
	CV%	3.6

RLU = relative light unit.

Note: The RLU value reported by the software was the basis for analysis. The reported RLU value is the total measured RLU divided by 1000 with the digits after the decimal point truncated.

Reproducibility Study

Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay reproducibility was evaluated on the Panther System at two external US laboratories and at Hologic. Testing was performed using two lots of assay reagents and a total of six operators (two at each site). At each site, testing was performed over at least 6 days.

Reproducibility panel members were created by using negative PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens with specimen transport medium. The positive panel members were created by spiking the PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap matrix with the appropriate amount of *T. vaginalis* lysate. Final *T. vaginalis* concentrations ranged from 0.003 trichomonads/mL to 1 trichomonads/mL.

Table 8 presents, for each panel member, RLU data in terms of mean, standard deviation (SD), and coefficient of variation (CV) between sites, between operators, between lots, between runs, within runs, and overall (Total). Percent agreement with expected results is also shown. Samples with valid results were included in the analyses.

Table 8: *Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay Reproducibility Study

Conc	Target Conc (TV/mL)	N	Agmt (%)	Mean RLU	Between Sites		Between Operators		Between Lots		Between Runs		Within Runs		Totals	
					SD	CV (%)	SD	CV (%)	SD	CV (%)	SD	CV (%)	SD	CV (%)	SD	CV (%)
Neg	N/A	108	99.1	23.5	0.0	0.0	2.7	11.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37.5	159.7	37.6	160.1
HNeg	0.003	108	90.7	69.3	5.0	7.3	4.5	6.5	6.1	8.8	14.8	21.4	16.0	23.1	23.6	34.1
MPos	0.02	108	97.2	348.1	30.3	8.7	33.1	9.5	33.1	9.5	77.0	22.1	62.9	18.1	114.0	32.8
HPos	1.00	108	100	1185.5	0.0	0.0	17.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	28.0	2.4	34.2	2.9	47.4	4.0

Agmt = agreement, Conc = concentration, CV = coefficient of variation, HNeg = high negative, HPos = high positive, MPos = moderate positive, Neg = negative, RLU = relative light units, SD = standard deviation.

Note: The RLU value reported by the software is the total measured RLU divided by 1000 with the digits after the decimal point truncated.

Variability from some factors may have been numerically negative. This occurred if the variability due to those factors was very small. In these cases, SD and CV are shown as 0.

Panther System Analytical Performance

Analytical Sensitivity

Sensitivity panels were prepared with two strains of *T. vaginalis* (one Metronidazole-susceptible strain and one Metronidazole-resistant strain). Testing showed greater than 95% positivity in both strains of *T. vaginalis* for panels containing 0.01 TV/mL in PreservCyt liquid Pap specimen matrix and panels containing 0.003 TV/mL in swab specimen matrix.

Cross-Reactivity in the Presence of Microorganisms

Specificity

Specificity of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay was evaluated by testing various microorganisms, including common flora of the genitourinary tract, opportunistic organisms, and closely related organisms. Testing was conducted in specimen transport medium (STM) and PreservCyt in STM with 25 replicates of each isolate. The list of organisms and the concentrations tested are provided in Table 9. No cross-reactivity or significant effect on Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay specificity was observed with any of the organisms tested.

Sensitivity

Sensitivity of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay was evaluated by testing the same organisms (Table 9) in STM and PreservCyt in STM spiked with *T. vaginalis* lysate to a final concentration of 0.01 TV/mL (25 replicates of each isolate). Sensitivity of the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay was not significantly affected by the presence of the microorganisms tested, except in the presence of *Trichomonas tenax* and *Pentatrichomonas hominis* (where lower signal outputs were observed). *T. tenax* is a commensal of the oral cavity and *Pentatrichomonas hominis* is a commensal of the large intestine.

Table 9: Microorganisms Tested in the Aptima Trichomonas vaginalis Assay

Microorganism	Concentration	Microorganism	Concentration
<i>Acinetobacter lwoffii</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	HPV 16	2.5x10 ⁶ copies/mL
<i>Actinomyces israelii</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	HPV 6	2.5x10 ⁶ copies/mL
<i>Atopobium vaginae</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Bifidobacterium adolescentis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Lactobacillus crispatus</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Candida albicans</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Mobiluncus curtisii</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	1x10 ⁶ IFU/mL	<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i>	2.5 x10 ⁶ copies/mL
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Mycoplasma hominis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Corynebacterium genitalium</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Pentatrichomonas hominis</i>	1x10 ⁶ cells/mL
Cytomegalovirus	2x10 ⁵ TCID ₅₀ /mL	<i>Peptostreptococcus magnus</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Prevotella bivia</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
<i>Gardnerella vaginalis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL

Table 9: Microorganisms Tested in the Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay (continued)

Microorganism	Concentration	Microorganism	Concentration
<i>Haemophilus ducreyi</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
Herpes simplex virus I	2x10 ⁵ TCID ₅₀ /mL	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL
Herpes simplex virus II	2x10 ⁵ TCID ₅₀ /mL	<i>Trichomonas tenax</i>	1x10 ⁶ cells/mL
HIV-1	2.5x10 ⁶ copies/mL	<i>Ureaplasma urealyticum</i>	1x10 ⁶ CFU/mL

Interference

The following substances were individually spiked into STM and PreservCyt in STM for a final concentration of 1% (vol/vol or wt/vol): personal lubricants, personal deodorants, spermicides, anti-fungals, intravaginal hormones, porcine gastric mucus, seminal fluid from 25 donors, and whole blood (10% final concentration). Glacial acetic acid was tested by spiking into PreservCyt-STM (10% final concentration). Samples with each interfering substance alone as well as samples spiked with *T. vaginalis* lysate to a final concentration of 0.01 TV/mL were tested.

Testing results yielded no false positive results for all substances tested (100% specificity).

No interference with the detection of *T. vaginalis* at concentrations of 0.01 TV/mL ($\geq 95\%$ sensitivity) was observed with any of the substances tested with the exception of Astroglide personal lubricant, porcine gastric mucus, and glacial acetic acid. Astroglide personal lubricant and glacial acetic acid did not interfere with the detection of *T. vaginalis* when tested at a concentration of 0.3 TV/mL (100% sensitivity). Porcine gastric mucus did not interfere with the detection of *T. vaginalis* when tested at a concentration of 1 TV/mL (100% sensitivity).

Carryover

To establish that the Panther® System minimizes the risk of false positive results arising from carryover contamination, a multi-day analytical study was conducted using spiked panels on three Panther Systems with one lot of Aptima *Trichomonas vaginalis* Assay reagents. The study used > 20% high-target *T. vaginalis* samples containing 10,000 TV/mL, which were placed among negative samples containing STM. Over the course of the study, 698 high-target samples and 2,266 negative samples were tested across the three Panther Systems. There were 0 false positive results for a 0% carryover contamination rate. These results demonstrate that carryover contamination is minimized on the Panther System.

Specimen Stability

Data to support the recommended shipping and storage conditions for the vaginal swab and PreservCyt liquid Pap specimens were generated with negative clinical specimens spiked with *T. vaginalis*. Greater than 98% positivity was observed in all matrices (vaginal swab and PreservCyt liquid Pap) at all times and temperatures tested confirming the validity of the maximum storage times and temperatures described in *Specimen Collection and Storage*.

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