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mwe
medical wire

Transwab®, Transtube®, Virocult®, Leaders in preanalyticals

Specimen collection
and transportation. . .
the key to accurate
and clinically relevant
diagnostic microbiology.

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mwe medical wire

Since its launch, Transwab® has developed into today's family of swab transport devices with choice of medium, shaft type and bud type, while maintaining its original guiding principles of practicality of use and reliable performance.

Multipurpose collection and transportation systems

Transwab®

World leading transport systems fc es

Transwab® was the world's first commercially produced self-contained transport swab with semi-solid medium for both aerobes and anaerobes. Over the years many studies have shown Transwab® to be reliable for collecting specimens and transferring them in good order to the laboratory, however distant.

As new pathogens emerge, diagnostic techniques advance, and clinical laboratories become increasingly centralised, Transwab® has kept pace, so that patients and clinicians can be assured that every specimen is maintained in the best condition for an accurate diagnosis.

Best choice of medium

- **Amies (with or without charcoal)** – preferred for most specimens, because the inorganic buffer ensures maintenance without overgrowth
- Stuarts – used for some PCR-based systems
- Cary Blair – alkaline, for faecal specimens

Best choice of shaft

- Straight plastic, for most specimens
- Duo - two removable plastic shafts for sampling multiple body sites, or allows option of additional near patient testing
- Straight wire – for urethral, ENT, and some eye specimens
- Twisted nichrome wire – for urethral specimens
- Ultrafine flexible twisted nichrome wire – for nasopharyngeal specimens

Best bud

- Medical Wire's open weave rayon bud is completely non-toxic, allows good sample collection, and high release of microorganisms onto plates or into broth at the laboratory

Best cap & Colour Coding

- Medical Wire's unique shrouded safety "Bell Cap" includes double seal – inside and outside tube, and protects both user and specimen.
- Colour coded caps for ease of selection according to specimen type

Order Information

Amies medium

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW169P	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW170	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW172P	Straight aluminium wire	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW172PT	Twisted nichrome® wire	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW173P	Ultrafine twisted wire	Nasopharyngeal - Pediatric	125

Stuart's medium

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW175P	Single Plastic theatre pack	Triple wrapped	100
MW166P	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW165P	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125

Cary Blair medium

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW168	Single Plastic	Rectal - Faecal	125

Unique safe loop design. Twisted wire swabs feature a safe loop with non-toxic soft rayon fibre for the safe collection of nasopharyngeal, urethral, ENT, and pediatric specimens. There are no hidden sharp edges.

Best for low bioburden

- Reliable Gram stains
- Transwab® gel medium contains no more than 1 non-viable bacterial cell per 20 high powered microscopic fields. Low bioburden relates directly to both the quality of raw materials and the manufacturing process.

Best shelf life

- Two year shelf life stored at ambient temperature

Best Quality Assurance

- CE-marked, conforming to MDD, IVD, and compliant with CLSI M40

Code	Description	Use	Pack
	Amies medium with Charcoal		
MW169P	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW171	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW172C	Straight aluminium wire	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW172CT	Twisted nichrome® wire	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW173C	Ultrafine twisted wire	Nasopharyngeal - Pediatric	125

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW175C	Single Plastic theatre pack	Triple wrapped	100
	Stuart's medium with Charcoal		
MW166C	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW165C	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125

"Nothing is more important to the effectiveness of a laboratory than a specimen that has been appropriately selected, collected and transported. If specimen collection and management are not priorities, then the laboratory can contribute little or nothing to patient care or related investigations"

J. Michael Miller in "A Guide to Specimen Management in Clinical Microbiology" ASM Press, 1996

Transtube®

Liquid medium transport system

Transtube® is a practical liquid medium transport system for situations where this is preferred.

Each Transtube® unit consists of a sterile swab and a pre-labelled transport tube containing a foam pad saturated with 1.2ml of liquid transport medium (Amies or Stuart's).

Transtube® shares many of the benefits of Transwab®

Best choice of medium

- Amies liquid – preferred for most specimens, because the inorganic buffer ensures maintenance without overgrowth
- Stuarts – used for some PCR-based systems

Best choice of shaft

- Straight plastic, for most specimens
- Duo - two removable plastic shafts for sampling multiple body sites, or allows option of additional near patient testing
- Straight wire – for urethral, ENT, and some eye specimens
- Fine flexible twisted nichrome wire – for nasopharyngeal specimens

Best bud

- Medical Wire's open weave rayon bud is completely non-toxic, allows good sample collection, and high release of microorganisms onto plates or into broth at the laboratory

Best cap & Colour Coding

- Medical Wire's unique shrouded safety "Bell Cap" includes double seal – inside and outside tube, and protects both user and specimen.
- Colour coded caps for ease of selection according to specimen type

Best for low bioburden

- Reliable Gram stains
- Transtube® medium contains no more than 1 non-viable bacterial cell per 20 high powered microscopic fields. Low bioburden relates directly to both the quality of raw materials and the manufacturing process.

Best shelf life

- Two year shelf life stored at ambient temperature

Best Quality Assurance

- CE-marked, conforming to MDD, IVD, and compliant with CLSI M40 for target organisms.

Order Information

Amies Liquid medium

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW167	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW176	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW177	Straight aluminium wire	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW178	Ultrafine twisted nichrome® wire	Nasopharyngeal - Pediatric	125

Stuart's Liquid medium

Code	Description	Use	Pack
MW164	Duo Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW163	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125

Virocult®

Liquid transport system for viruses

Combined collection and transport system for viruses incorporating a specially formulated liquid transport medium

Each Virocult® unit consists of a sterile swab and a pre-labelled transport tube containing a foam pad saturated with 1.2ml of Virocult® virus transport medium (balanced salt solution plus glucose, lactalbumin hydrolysate and antibiotics).

Virocult® offers significant advantages and is used and endorsed by virologists throughout the world

Best medium

- Virocult liquid medium
- No hazardous ampoules
- Extended survival for most viruses, at ambient temperature
- Bacteria & fungi inhibited
- No inhibition of molecular test systems

Best choice of shaft

- Straight plastic suitable for majority of specimens
- Straight wire – for urethral, ENT, and some eye specimens
- Fine flexible twisted nichrome wire – for nasopharyngeal specimens

Best bud

- Medical Wire's open weave rayon bud is completely non-toxic, allows good sample collection, and high release of virus into reagents

Best cap & Colour Coding

- Medical Wire's unique shrouded safety "Bell Cap" includes double seal – inside and outside tube, and protects both user and specimen.
- Colour coded caps for ease of selection according to specimen type

Best for ease of use

- To use, simply peel open the sterile pack, take the specimen, insert the swab into the transport tube, and gently squeeze the base of the tube to bathe the swab with medium.

Best for processing

- In the laboratory, Virocult is readily processed for culture or molecular techniques.

Best shelf life

- Twelve months shelf life stored at ambient temperature

Best Quality Assurance

- CE-marked, conforming to MDD, IVD, and compliant with CLSI M40 for viruses.

Using Virocult®

In a variety of circumstances, swab sampling may be indicated for many viruses, such as Herpes Simplex Virus, Varicella-Zoster Virus, influenza, (including H1N1), respiratory syncytial virus, metapneumo virus, bocavirus, mumps virus, adenovirus, rhinovirus and various enteroviruses. Virocult® provides a ready-to-use, high quality, CEmarked sterile swab for sampling, and a stable Virocult® transport medium for safe transport of the sample to the laboratory.

Order Information

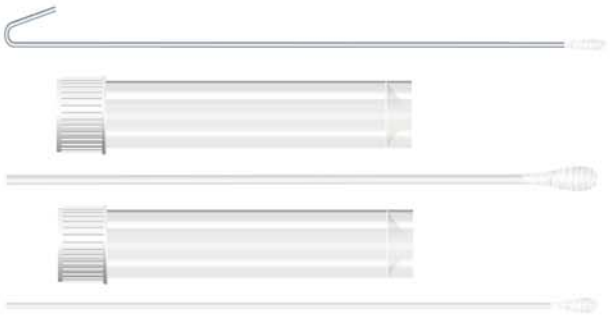
Code	Description	Use	Pack
	Liquid Virus Transport medium		
MW950	Single Plastic	Wound - Skin - Urogenital - Throat	125
MW974	Straight aluminium wire	Urethral - ENT - Eye	125
MW975	Twisted nichrome® wire	Nasopharyngeal - Pediatric	125

Collection Kits

Used for a variety of molecular tests

Medical Wire's Collection Kits can be used for a variety of molecular test methods, such as PCR or ELISA. ALWAYS refer to the kit or test system manufacturer's recommended procedures for validation, and always include controls to ensure compatibility.

Code	Collection Kits	Pack
MW938	Collection Kit with Standard Plastic & Wire Shafts, & Collection Vial	125
MW939	Collection Kit with Standard Plastic & Narrow Plastic Shafts, & Collection Vial	125



Shortie Transwabs®

For transport of reference samples

Short swab with unique "winged plug" cap & tube for the transport of cultures to reference laboratories. Short tube fits inside standard mailing containers.

Code	Shortie Transwab	Pack
MW170SH	Shortie Transwab, Amies Medium Plain	125
MW171SH	Shortie Transwab, Amies Medium Charcoal	125

Dry Swabs

A complete range of buds and formats

For specimen collection, and general laboratory use. A complete range of buds and formats to handle all specimen requirements.

Request or download brochure at www.mwe.co.uk

Chlamydia Transwab®

Culture based transport system

Culture based transport for Chlamydia specimens from urethral, cervical, respiratory and ophthalmic specimens with Chlamydia transport medium (modified 2-sucrose phosphate buffer, including anti-bacteria and anti-fungal antibiotics). Male and female kits are available.

Code	Chlamydia Transwabs (for culture)	Pack
MW934	Chlamydia Transwab ENT, Liquid Medium with Straight Wire Shaft	125
MW935	Chlamydia Transwab ENT, Liquid Medium with Twisted Wire Shaft	125
MW933	Chlamydia Transwab, Liquid Medium with Plastic Shaft	125

Specimen collection and transportation... the key to accurate and clinically relevant microbiology

Most swab specimens consist of a mixed population of microorganisms. The target pathogen may be fastidious, with a tendency to die rapidly once removed from the site of infection, but other organisms collected at the same time can be opportunistic, growing rapidly, distorting the original proportions and presenting a false picture of the infection.

For swab-collected specimens, selection of a suitable swab transport device is critical for the accurate diagnosis and successful treatment of the infection.

Transwab® was the world's first commercial transport swab with a gel medium specifically designed to ensure the collection and safe delivery of a viable and stable specimen to the laboratory. Standard versions of Transwab® include a transport tube filled with a modified Amies medium which will maintain fastidious pathogens in a viable condition, without overgrowth of opportunistic commensal organisms.

Since its launch, Transwab® has developed into today's versatile range of swab transport devices with a choice of medium, shaft and bud, while adhering to its original guiding principles of practicality of use and reliable performance.

Transwab® includes many key features.

Plastic or wire shaft with rayon bud. Wood sticks and cotton buds are not used with transport swabs because they both release antibacterial fatty acids.

Standard plastic shafts with rayon buds are suitable for most applications, while straight, twisted or ultrafine twisted are better suited to specialist applications such as urethral or nasopharyngeal sampling.

Medical Wire's open-weave rayon bud allows good sample collection and optimum release of the specimen.

Amies Medium[5], with or without charcoal is recommended for the majority of applications. For certain special techniques Stuart's medium[1,2] may be specified, although its glycerophosphate component can act as a nutrient[3,4] allowing some overgrowth. Cary Blair medium is sometimes used for faecal specimens[6]. M40-A[7]

CLSI's M40-A was developed to provide a universal standard with recommendations for the construction and performance of microbiological devices, including transport swabs. For bacteriological transport swabs, there are three categories of bacteria, namely aerobes, anaerobes, and fastidious organisms, and individual products would be tested for survival of these organisms* without overgrowth at ambient or refrigerator temperatures. Products are assessed against the standard and according to their intended use.

* Some products are not intended for use in all situations, and testing is adapted accordingly.

References

1 Stuart, 1946, Glasgow Med. J., 27:131-142

2 Stuart, R.D., Toshach, S.R, & Patsula, T.M., 1954, Canad. J. Public Health, 45:73-83

3 Quastel, J.H., 1954 in Chemical Pathways of Metabolism, 1:132 (ed. M. Greenberg, pub. Academic Press, New York)

4 Crookes, E.M.L., & Stuart, R.D., 1959, J. Path. Bact. 78:283

5 Amies, C.R., 1967, Canad. J. Public Health, 58:296-300

6 Cary, S.G., & Blair, E.B., 1964, J. Bacteriol., 88, 96-98

7 CLSI M40-A, 2003

Molecular Methods

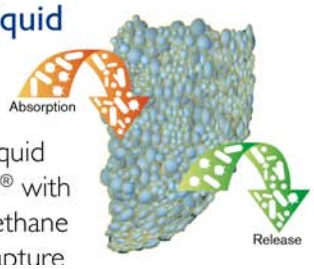
All of Medical Wire's transport devices are compatible with most molecular testing methods. It is essential, however, to check with the molecular kit or system manufacturer to determine if they have any special requirements or methods for validation of collection devices. If additional validation is required, and in the absence of specific guidance use an appropriate procedure such as Cumitech 31A to confirm the collection devices are suitable.

Clark, R. B. et al, 2009, Cumitech 31A, Verification and Validation of Procedures in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, ASM Press, Washington DC

Σ-Swab®

The new generation of preanalyticals

Also from Medical Wire, for the new era of automated and liquid based microbiology



All new specimen collection devices with screw cap tube, liquid medium, and featuring Σ-Swab® with open cell flow-through polyurethane foam bud, and integral swab-capture system. Fully comp
processing platforn

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J. Michael Miller in "A Guide to Specimen Management in Clinical Microbiology" ASM Press, 1996

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State-of-the-art Transwab design:

Colour coded cap and label for ease of identification.

Unique Safety "Bell Cap": prevents the user's fingers coming into contact with swab or transport tube.

Dual action "Bell Cap" ensures containment of specimen during transit.

Shrouded Safety bell cap tightly grips the inside and outside of the tube.

Generous 5ml fill of semi solid Amies medium provides optimum conditions for fastidious anaerobes*.

Oxygen reduced medium enhanced for fastidious anaerobes.

Low Bio Burden - 1 non-viable bacterial cell per 20 high powered microscopic fields.

Rayon bud is non-toxic to microorganisms and provides both good absorption and release of specimen.

Open weave rayon bud for optimum take up and release of micro organisms.

*Other media available.

mwe medical wire

Multipurpose collection and transportation systems

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