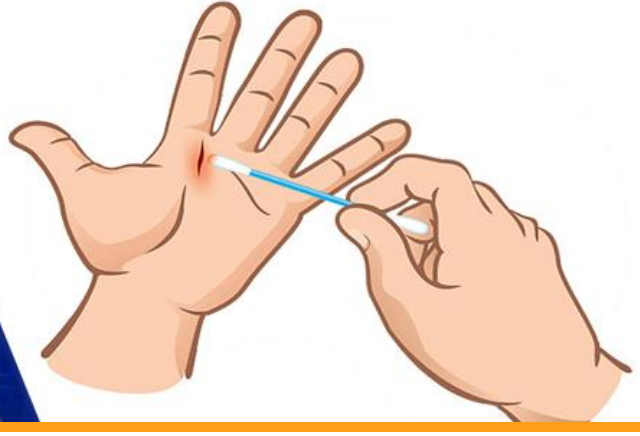
ENCOMPASS DIAGNOSTICS

**MATERIALS PROVIDED**

- ✓ 1 sterile swab
- ✓ 1 specimen bag
- ✓ 1 molecular transport tube
- ✓ 1 UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer



# WOUND SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

To request additional supplies, and/or courier services, please contact us at:
**https://encompassdiagnostics.com/contact-us/**
**Email: support@encompassdiagnostics.com**

## *SPECIMEN COLLECTION*

To ensure the safety and validity of a sample, it is important to follow these instructions.

**DO NOT DISINFECT THE WOUND PRIOR TO SAMPLING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

1. Don gloves and follow one of the sample collection methods below based upon the type of wound:
   - **Decubitus ulcer and other open wounds:**
     a. Roll the swab directly across the affected area until saturated.
     b. Proceed to step 2.
   - **Abscess with intact skin:**
     a. Disinfect the area. Using a sterile needle/syringe, aspirate purulent material from abscess.
     b. Transfer 0.3-0.5 mL of purulent material directly into molecular transport tube.
     c. Proceed to step 5.
   - **Abscess with open skin/sinus tract:**
     a. Roll sterile swab within abscess/sinus with purulent material and ensure the swab is fully saturated.
     b. Proceed to step 2.
   - **Joint Fluid:**
     a. Disinfect the area. Using a sterile needle/syringe, aspirate joint fluid.
     b. Eject 0.3-0.5 mL of joint fluid directly into molecular transport tube.
     c. Proceed to step 5.
   - **Vesicular dermatitis lesions:**
     a. Carefully open the lesion with a scalpel blade.
     b. Collect fluid contents on the swab.
     c. Thoroughly swab the base. The ‘roof tissue’ of the vesicle can be carefully removed, and submitted in same MTM tube.
     d. Place all material in the molecular collection tube.
     e. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten tube cap.
     f. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 - 15 minutes.
   - **Cellulitis/Skin Rashes:**
     a. Preferred/Optional: Gently scrape the affected area with a sterile scalpel blade (not provided).
     b. Vigorously swab the scraped/affected area with the swab.
     c. Using the same swab, collect any material on the scalpel blade.
     d. Proceed to step 2.
2. Place the swab in the molecular transport tube.
3. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
4. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and recap the tube retaining the swab in the tube.
5. Snap off excess handle and securely tighten top of the transport tube.
6. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 - 15 minutes.