



# TECHNICAL NOTICE

## SOUTH BEND MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC.

### Vaginal pathogens by direct DNA probe

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2011 **Performing Department:** Flow Cytometry/ Molecular Pathology

**Clinical Significance:** Vaginitis is one of the most commonly seen problems in clinical medicine. The three main categories of vaginitis are bacterial vaginosis (BV), yeast vaginitis (candidiasis) and T. vaginitis (trichomoniasis).

In addition to vaginitis, one or more of these agents have been associated with adverse events in pregnancy, post surgical infections and pelvic inflammatory disease. This test provides up to 60% greater sensitivity than wet mount and is unaffected by interfering substances, such as blood, vaginal lubricants, douching and mixed infections.

The DNA probe test is an alternative to conventional testing methodologies, with better sample stability and potential for improved organism detection rates.

**Method:** BD Affirm™ VPIII Microbial Identification Test is a non-amplified DNA probe test.

**Use:** Detection and identification of *Candida* species, *Gardnerella vaginalis* and *Trichomonas vaginalis* nucleic acid in vaginal fluid specimens from patients with symptoms of vaginitis/vaginosis.

**Reference Range:** Negative for *Candida*, *Gardnerella vaginalis* and *Trichomonas vaginalis* species.

**Specimen Collection Requirements:** Follow the instructions provided in the collection kit to minimize the possibility of inadequate specimens using the Affirm VPIII Ambient Temperature Transport System (ATTS). The swabs and transport media provided must be used to obtain the specimen.

**Order SBMF supply number 1003 for the ATTS collection device.**

**Transportation/ Storage:** Collected samples can be stored and transported at room temp or refrigerated temperature (2-8°C) for up to 3 days, frozen specimens are not acceptable.

**Stability:** 72 hours

**Testing Days:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday

**Order:** 36041 **CPT:** *Candida* species DNA probe 87480; *Gardnerella vaginalis* DNA probe 87510; *Trichomonas vaginalis* DNA probe 87660

Please direct any questions, or comments regarding this notice to Deborah H. Sun, Ph.D. ([dsun@sbfm.org](mailto:dsun@sbfm.org)) or Kevin Maggert, Senior Technologist ([kmaggert@sbfm.org](mailto:kmaggert@sbfm.org)) at South Bend Medical Foundation (574) 234-4176 or (800) 544-0925.