Detect More Infections with **Nucleic Acid Amplification**

Each year, approximately 7.4 million new cases of *Trichomonas vaginalis* (Tv) occur in women and men, making it more prevalent than Chlamydia and gonorrhea combined.\(^1,2\)

**The Unrecognized Infection**

Tv is not commonly tested for, diagnosed, and/or treated. In fact, among a sample set of women between the ages of 18 and 89 who were tested for Chlamydia and gonorrhea, prevalence of Ct, Ng, and Tv varied by age.\(^1\) Out of the 7593 women screened for STDs, Tv was detected in 8.7% of the study population and Tv was most prevalent in the 40+ age group (n=1044).\(^1\)

See chart below.

**Detect and Treat Infections**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines recommend that women who present with vaginal discharge should be tested for Tv, and women at high risk for Tv infection (for example, women who have new or multiple partners, or who have a history of STDs) can be considered for screening.\(^4\)

**Presentation and Untreated Consequences**

Tv infection in women is frequently asymptomatic but may present as vaginitis. Similarly, a recent study found 72% of male partners of women with Tv were also positive for the infection, but 75% were asymptomatic.\(^5\)

Untreated Tv can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID),\(^9\) a leading cause of infertility in women. Tv infection may also lead to pregnancy complications, such as premature rupture of the membranes, preterm delivery, and low birth weight.\(^4,6\) Evidence has shown HIV-infected women who are also infected with Tv may have an increased chance of HIV transmission.\(^1,4\) Untreated Tv in men is associated with increased risk of urethritis, prostatitis, and infertility.\(^5\)

Antibiotic treatment for Tv can usually cure the infection, ie, in a single dose, given orally, of metronidazole or tinidazole.\(^1,4\)

Among a sample set of women between the ages of 18 and 89 who were tested for Ct/Ng, prevalence of Ct, Ng, and Tv varied by age.\(^3\)
Traditional Testing Methods

Traditional methods of testing for Tv fail to detect many infections. Poor sensitivity of wet mount has been cited as the greatest impediment to effective treatment of Tv infections. While highly specific, traditional test methods have limited sensitivity for Tv in females.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic Method</th>
<th>Sensitivity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BD Affirm VPIII</td>
<td>46.3 ± 7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papanicolaou smear</td>
<td>24 ± 6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet Mount</td>
<td>52% to 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>75% to &gt;90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentages are approximate and based on specific studies; see individual references.

Scientific Advancements and Detection Rates

LabCorp offers the APTIMA® *Trichomonas vaginalis* assay that employs nucleic acid amplification technology (NAAT) and has improved sensitivity compared to existing methods. NAAT is highly sensitive for Tv and detects more infections than wet-mount microscopy. For practices performing in-office wet mount, use of the APTIMA® *Trichomonas vaginalis* assay may be considered for female patients at risk for Tv infection who have negative wet-mount results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Sensitivity (95% Confidence Interval)</th>
<th>Specificity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal swab</td>
<td>100% (96.7% – 100%)</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocervical swab</td>
<td>100% (96.7% – 100%)</td>
<td>99.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ThinPrep® liquid-based Pap</td>
<td>100% (96.0% – 100%)</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urine</td>
<td>95.2% (88.4% – 98.1%)</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Convenient Test Options

LabCorp offers Ct, Ng, and Tv test options off of numerous collection devices, giving clinicians and patients convenient options. ThinPrep® Liquid-based Pap, SurePathTM Liquid-based Pap; APTIMA® Unisex or Vaginal swabs (Note: For unisex swabs; male urethral or female endocervical specimens accepted; vaginal swab may be patient-collected); APTIMA® Urine (Male or Female)

Visit the online Test Menu at www.LabCorp.com for full test information, including CPT codes and specimen collection requirements.

References