

**Aptima Combo 2® Assay (Panther® System)**

**IVD**

Rx only

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## General Information

### Intended Use

The Aptima Combo 2® assay is a target amplification nucleic acid probe test that utilizes target capture for the *in vitro* qualitative detection and differentiation of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) from *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) and/or *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC) to aid in the diagnosis of chlamydial and/or gonococcal disease using the Panther® system as specified.

On the Panther system, the assay may be used to test the following specimens from symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals: clinician-collected endocervical, PreservCyt® Solution liquid Pap specimens, vaginal, throat, rectal, and male urethral swab specimens; patient-collected vaginal swab specimens<sup>1</sup>, and female and male urine specimens.

<sup>1</sup>Patient-collected vaginal swab specimens are an option for screening women when a pelvic exam is not otherwise indicated. The Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit has not been evaluated for home use.

### Summary and Explanation of the Test

*Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC) infections are two of the most common sexually transmitted infections worldwide. In the United States alone, a total of 1,808,703 cases of CT infections (552.8 per 100,000 population) and 616,392 cases of GC infections (188.4 per 100,000 population) were reported to the Centers for Disease Control in 2019 (9). CDC STD Treatment Guidelines include testing and screening recommendations for CT and GC and provide guidance on testing methodology and frequency, as well as specimen types for specific patient populations.

Chlamydiae are nonmotile, gram-negative, obligate intracellular bacteria. The CT species is comprised of at least fifteen serovars (A, B, Ba, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L1, L2 and L3) that can cause disease in humans (39). The serovars D through K are the major cause of genital chlamydial infections in men and women (31). *C. trachomatis* can cause nongonococcal urethritis, epididymitis, proctitis, cervicitis, acute salpingitis, and Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) (3, 20, 33, 34). *C. trachomatis* infections are often asymptomatic in both males and females. Children born to infected mothers are at significantly higher risk for inclusion conjunctivitis and chlamydial pneumonia (1, 15, 32).

Historically, several methods for CT detection have been utilized in the clinical laboratory, including cell culture, direct fluorescent antibody testing, and enzyme immunoassay. More recent methodologies for CT detection include direct DNA probe assays and nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) DNA probe assays. Cell culture was once considered to be the “gold standard” for detection of CT. Culture is quite specific, but scientific publications have demonstrated that the NAAT DNA probe technologies have a higher clinical sensitivity than culture (2, 13, 22, 35).

*N. gonorrhoeae* is the causative agent of gonorrheal disease. *N. gonorrhoeae* are nonmotile, gram-negative diplococci. The majority of gonorrheal infections are uncomplicated lower genital tract infections and may be asymptomatic. However, if left untreated in women, infections can ascend and cause PID, which can manifest as endometritis, salpingitis, pelvic peritonitis, and tubo-ovarian abscesses. A smaller percentage of persons with gonococcal infections may develop Disseminated Gonococcal Infection (DGI) (19, 26). When left untreated in men, urethritis including dysuria, epididymitis, and scrotal pain may persist. CT and NG oropharyngeal infections may present with sore throat although most are asymptomatic. Rectal infections, when symptomatic, may present with discharge, anal itching, soreness, bleeding, and painful bowel movements (7, 8).

Conventional diagnosis of GC infection requires isolation of the organism on selective media or the observation of diplococci in Gram stained smears (21). Culture methods can have good clinical sensitivity, but are highly dependent on proper specimen handling. Improper specimen storage and transport can result in the loss of organism viability and yield false negative results. Poor sampling technique, toxic sampling materials, and the inhibition of growth by components of body secretions can also result in false negative results (11, 24).

The CDC recommends the use of NAATs for the detection of CT and GC in men and women with and without symptoms, not only for urogenital specimens, but also for extragenital sites (6).

First generation NAATs for CT and GC have technological issues that have limited their performance. These issues include cumbersome specimen processing and specimen inhibition that can yield false negative results (10, 14, 17, 25, 28, 36, 37, 38). The Aptima Combo 2 assay is a second generation NAAT that utilizes target capture, Transcription-Mediated Amplification (TMA), and Dual Kinetic Assay (DKA) technologies to streamline specimen processing, amplify target rRNA, and detect amplicon, respectively. Studies comparing performance and specimen inhibition of various amplification systems have demonstrated the benefits of target capture, TMA, and DKA technologies (12, 16). The Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system qualitatively detects CT and/or GC rRNA in clinician-collected endocervical, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens, vaginal, throat, rectal, and male urethral swab specimens; patient-collected vaginal swab specimens, and female and male urine specimens from symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals.

In 2019, novel *C. trachomatis* variants were discovered which contain point mutations affecting detection by the original version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay (18, 23, 29, 30, 41, 42). Variant strains of chlamydia with mutations affecting diagnostic test performance have been reported previously (40) and are a natural product of microbial evolution. The updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay provides detection coverage for the variant strains of *C. trachomatis* that emerged in 2019.

## Principles of the Procedure

The Aptima Combo 2 assay combines the technologies of target capture, TMA, and DKA.

Specimens are collected and transferred into their respective specimen transport tubes. The transport solutions in these tubes release the rRNA targets and protect them from degradation during storage. When the Aptima Combo 2 assay is performed in the laboratory, the target rRNA molecules are isolated from specimens by use of capture oligomers via target capture that utilizes magnetic microparticles. The capture oligomers contain sequences complementary to specific regions of the target molecules as well as a string of deoxyadenosine residues. A separate capture oligomer is used for each target. During the hybridization step, the sequence specific regions of the capture oligomers bind to specific regions of the target molecules. 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 molecules 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 reaction 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

Aptima Combo 2 assay replicates a specific region of the 23S rRNA from CT and a specific region of the 16S rRNA from GC via DNA intermediates. A unique set of primers is used for each target molecule. Detection of the rRNA amplification product sequences (amplicon) is achieved using nucleic acid hybridization. Single-stranded nucleic acid chemiluminescent probes, which are complementary to a region of each target amplicon, are labeled with different acridinium ester molecules. The updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay incorporates a second CT probe, complementary to a unique region of the existing CT amplicon. This tandem probe provides detection coverage for the variant strains of *C. trachomatis* that emerged in 2019. The labeled probes combine with amplicon to form stable 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 hybrids is measured as photon signals in a luminometer, and are reported as Relative Light Units (RLU). In DKA, differences in the kinetic profiles of the CT and GC labeled probes allow for the differentiation of signal; kinetic profiles are derived from measurements of photon output during the detection read time. The chemiluminescent detection reaction for CT signal has very rapid kinetics and has the “flasher” kinetic type. The chemiluminescent detection reaction for GC signal is relatively slower and has the “glower” kinetic type. Assay results are determined by a cut-off based on the total RLU and the kinetic curve type.

## Warnings and Precautions

- A. For *in vitro* diagnostic use.
- B. For additional specific warnings, precautions and procedures to control contamination for the Panther system, consult 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 the affected area with water. If this fluid spills, dilute the spill with water before wiping it 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. This assay has been cleared for the following specimens on the Panther system:
  - Clinician-collected endocervical, vaginal, throat, rectal, and male urethral swab specimens
  - Female and male urine specimens
  - Clinician-collected PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens
  - Patient-collected vaginal swab specimens

Only specimens collected with the following specimen collection kits have been cleared on the Panther system:

- Aptima® Unisex Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Endocervical and Male Urethral Swab Specimens
- Aptima Urine Collection Kit for Male and Female Urine Specimens
- Aptima Multitest Swab Specimen Collection Kit for Vaginal, Throat, and Rectal Swab Specimens
- Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit (for use with gynecologic samples collected in PreservCyt Solution)


Gynecologic samples collected for preparation using the ThinPrep® 2000 System should be collected using broom-type or endocervical brush/plastic spatula combination collection devices.

- H. Expiration dates listed on the collection kits pertain to the collection site and not the testing facility. Samples collected any time prior to the expiration date of the collection kit, and transported and stored in accordance with the package insert, are valid for testing even if the expiration date on the collection tube has passed.
- I. The PreservCyt solution has been validated as an alternative medium for testing with the Aptima Combo 2 assay. PreservCyt solution liquid pap specimens processed with instruments other than the ThinPrep 2000 processor have not been evaluated for use in Aptima assays.
- J. After urine has been added in the urine transport tube, the liquid level must fall between the two black indicator lines on the tube label. Otherwise, the specimen must be rejected.
- 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. 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.
- M. 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 open containers. Change gloves if they come in contact with specimen.
- N. 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. Prior to rejecting a swab transport tube with no swab, verify that it is not an Aptima Specimen Transfer Tube as this specimen transport tube will not contain a swab.
- O. For PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens, collect according to the manufacturer's instructions. Aliquots subsequently removed from the PreservCyt vial for testing by the Aptima Combo 2 assay should be processed using only the Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit.
- P. Upon piercing, liquid can discharge from Aptima transport tube caps under certain conditions. Follow instructions in the *Panther System Test Procedure* to prevent this occurrence.

**Assay Related**

- Q. Do not use this kit after its expiration date.
- R. Do not interchange, mix, or combine assay reagents from kits with different lot numbers. Aptima controls and assay fluids (Panther system) can be from different lot numbers.
- S. Some reagents of this kit are labeled with risk and safety symbols.

**Note:** For hazard communication information, refer to the Safety Data Sheet Library at [www.hologicsds.com](http://www.hologicsds.com).

<b>US Hazard Information</b>	
	<p><b>Selection Reagent</b> <b>BORIC ACID 1-5%</b> <b>WARNING</b> 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</p>

**Reagent Storage and Handling Requirements**

- A. The following reagents are stable when stored at 2°C to 8°C (refrigerated):
  - Aptima Combo 2 Amplification Reagent
  - Aptima Combo 2 Enzyme Reagent
  - Aptima Combo 2 Probe Reagent
  - Aptima Combo 2 Target Capture Reagent B
  - Aptima Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC
  - Aptima Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT
- B. The following reagents are stable when stored at 2°C to 30°C:
  - Aptima Combo 2 Amplification Reconstitution Solution
  - Aptima Combo 2 Enzyme Reconstitution Solution
  - Aptima Combo 2 Probe Reconstitution Solution
  - Aptima Combo 2 Selection Reagent
- C. The following reagents are stable when stored at 15°C to 30°C (room temperature):
  - Target Capture Reagent
  - Aptima Wash Solution
  - Aptima Buffer for Deactivation Fluid
  - Aptima Oil Reagent

- D. Working Target Capture Reagent (wTCR) is stable for 30 days when stored at 15°C to 30°C. Do not refrigerate.
- E. After reconstitution, the Enzyme Reagent, Amplification Reagent, and Probe Reagent are stable for 30 days when stored at 2°C to 8°C.
- F. Discard any unused reconstituted reagents and wTCR after 30 days or after the Master Lot expiration date, whichever comes first.
- G. Controls are stable until the date indicated on the vials.
- H. Reagents stored on-board the Panther system have 72 hours of on-board stability.
- I. The Probe Reagent and Reconstituted Probe Reagent are photosensitive. Store the reagents protected from light. The specified reconstituted stability is based on 12 hours exposure of the Reconstituted Probe Reagent to two 60W fluorescent bulbs, at a distance of 17 inches (43 cm), and temperature less than 30°C. Light exposure of the Reconstituted Probe Reagent should be limited accordingly.
- J. Upon warming to room temperature, some control tubes may appear cloudy or contain precipitates. Cloudiness or precipitation associated with controls does not affect control performance. The controls may be used whether they are clear or cloudy/precipitated. If clear controls are desired, solubilization may be expedited by incubating them at the upper end of the room temperature range (15°C to 30°C).
- K. Do not freeze the reagents.**

## Specimen Collection and Storage

The Aptima Combo 2 assay is designed to detect the presence of CT and GC in the following specimens: clinician-collected endocervical, PreservCyt® Solution liquid Pap specimens, vaginal, throat, rectal, and male urethral swab specimens; patient-collected vaginal swab specimens, and female and male urine specimens from symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals.

### A. Instructions for collection:

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

### B. Specimen transport and storage before testing:

#### 1. Urogenital swab specimens:

- a. After collection, transport and store the swab in the swab specimen transport tube at 2°C to 30°C until tested. Specimens must be assayed with the Aptima Combo 2 assay within 60 days of collection. If longer storage is needed, freeze urogenital specimens in the swab specimen transport tube within 7 days of collection at -20°C to -70°C to allow testing up to 12 months after collection (see *Specimen Stability Studies*).

#### 2. Extragenital swab specimens (throat and rectal)

- a. After collection, transport and store the swab in the swab specimen transport tube between 4°C and 30°C, or -20°C and -70°C until tested. Specimens must be assayed with the Aptima Combo 2 assay within 60 days of collection (see *Extragenital Specimen Handling and Stability Study*).

3. Urine specimens:
    - a. Maintain urine specimen at 2°C to 30°C after collection and transfer to the Aptima urine specimen transport tube within 24 hours of collection. Transport to the lab in the primary collection container or the transport tube at 2°C to 30°C. Store at 2°C to 30°C and test the processed urine specimens with the Aptima Combo 2 assay within 30 days of collection.
    - b. If longer storage is needed, freeze urine specimens in the Aptima urine specimen transport tube within 7 days of collection at -20°C to -70°C to allow testing up to 12 months after collection (see *Specimen Stability Studies*).
  4. PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens:
    - a. PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens intended for CT and/or GC testing must be processed for cytology and/or transferred to an Aptima Specimen Transfer tube within 30 days of collection when stored at 2°C to 30°C (see *Specimen Stability Studies*).
    - b. If the ThinPrep aliquot removal procedure will be used, refer to the *ThinPrep 2000 Processor Operator's Manual* for instructions on aliquot removal. Transfer 1 mL of the removed aliquot into an Aptima specimen transfer tube according to the instructions in the Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit package insert.
    - c. If testing the specimen after processing using the ThinPrep 2000 Processor, process the PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen in accordance with the *ThinPrep 2000 Processor Operator's Manual* and the Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit package insert. Transfer 1 mL of the fluid remaining in the PreservCyt Solution vial into an Aptima specimen transfer tube according to the instructions in the Aptima Specimen Transfer Kit package insert.
    - d. Once the PreservCyt solution liquid pap specimen is transferred to the Aptima specimen transfer tube, the specimen must be assayed with the Aptima Combo 2 assay within 30 days when stored at 2°C to 8°C, or 14 days when stored at 15°C to 30°C. If longer storage is needed, freeze specimen within 7 days of transfer to the Aptima specimen transfer tube at -20°C to -70°C to allow testing up to 12 months after transfer (see *Specimen Stability Studies*).
- 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 previously tested and recapped samples, specimen transport tubes must be centrifuged for 5 minutes at 420 Relative Centrifugal Force (RCF) 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 Combo 2 assay for CT and GC are listed below for the Panther system. Reagent Identification Symbols are also listed next to the reagent name.

### Reagents and Materials Provided

#### Aptima Combo 2 Assay Kit

100 tests (2 boxes and 1 Controls kit) (Cat. No. PRD-05576)

250 tests (2 boxes and 1 Controls kit) (Cat. No. PRD-05571)

#### Aptima Combo 2 Refrigerated Box (Box 1 of 2) (store at 2°C to 8°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity 250 test kit	Quantity 100 test kit
<b>A</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Amplification Reagent</b> <i>Non-infectious nucleic acids dried in buffered solution containing &lt; 5% bulking agent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
<b>E</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Enzyme Reagent</b> <i>Reverse transcriptase and RNA polymerase dried in HEPES buffered solution containing &lt; 10% bulking reagent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
<b>P</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Probe Reagent</b> <i>Non-infectious chemiluminescent DNA probes dried in succinate buffered solution containing &lt; 5% detergent.</i>	1 vial	1 vial
<b>TCR-B</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Target Capture Reagent B</b> <i>Non-infectious nucleic acid in a buffered solution containing &lt; 5% detergent.</i>	1 x 0.61 mL	1 x 0.30 mL

#### Aptima Combo 2 Room Temperature Box (Box 2 of 2) (store at 15°C to 30°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity 250 test kit	Quantity 100 test kit
<b>AR</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Amplification Reconstitution Solution</b> <i>Aqueous solution containing preservatives.</i>	1 x 27.7 mL	1 x 11.9 mL
<b>ER</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Enzyme Reconstitution Solution</b> <i>HEPES buffered solution containing a surfactant and glycerol.</i>	1 x 11.1 mL	1 x 6.3 mL
<b>PR</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Probe Reconstitution Solution</b> <i>Succinate buffered solution containing &lt; 5% detergent.</i>	1 x 35.4 mL	1 x 15.2 mL
<b>S</b>	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Selection Reagent</b> <i>600 mM borate buffered solution containing surfactant.</i>	1 x 108 mL	1 x 43.0 mL

**Aptima Combo 2 Room Temperature Box (Box 2 of 2) (Continued)**  
(store at 15°C to 30°C upon receipt)

Symbol	Component	Quantity 250 test kit	Quantity 100 test kit
TCR	<b>Aptima Combo 2 Target Capture Reagent</b> <i>Buffered salt solution containing solid phase and capture oligomers.</i>	1 x 54 mL	1 x 26.0 mL
	<b>Reconstitution Collars</b>	3	3
	<b>Master Lot Barcode Sheet</b>	1 sheet	1 sheet

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

Symbol	Component	Quantity
PCT/NGC	<b>Aptima Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC</b> <i>Non-infectious CT nucleic acid in a buffered solution containing &lt; 5% detergent. Each 400 µL sample contains the estimated rRNA equivalent of 1 CT IFU (5 fg/assay*).</i>	5 x 1.7 mL
PGC/NCT	<b>Aptima Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT</b> <i>Non-infectious GC nucleic acid in a buffered solution containing &lt; 5% detergent. Each 400 µL sample contains the estimated rRNA equivalent of 50 GC cells (250 fg/assay*).</i>	5 x 1.7 mL

\*The rRNA equivalents were calculated based on the genome size and estimated DNA:RNA ratio/cell of each organism.

## Materials Required But Available Separately

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

	Cat. No.
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

	<u>Cat. No.</u>
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
Aptima Urine Specimen Collection Kit for Male and Female Urine Specimens	301040
Aptima Urine Specimen Transport Tubes for Male and Female Urine Specimens	105575
Bleach, 5% to 7% (0.7M to 1.0M) 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 the 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 Controls Kit	301110
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

Clean work surfaces where reagents and samples will be prepared. Wipe down work surfaces with 2.5% to 3.5% (0.35M to 0.5M) 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

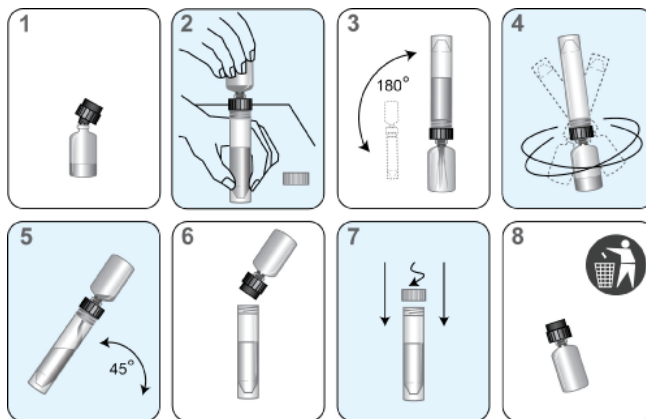
**Note:** Reagent reconstitution should be performed prior to beginning any work on the Panther system.

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, 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 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 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 swab specimen transport tube.
  - c. A final volume of urine between the black fill lines of a urine specimen transport tube.
  - d. 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.
  - c. If the liquid level in a urine specimen tube is not between the two black indicator lines on the label, the specimen must be rejected. Do not pierce an overfilled tube.
  - d. If a urine specimen tube contains precipitate, heat the specimen at 37°C for up to 5 minutes. If the precipitate does not go back into solution, visually ensure that the precipitate does not prevent delivery of the specimen.

**Note:** *Failure to follow Steps 4a–c 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*. Make sure that the appropriately sized reagent racks and TCR adapters are used.
2. Load samples.

## Procedural Notes

### A. Controls

1. To work properly with the Aptima assay software for the Panther system, one pair of controls is required. The Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC and the Positive Control, GC / Negative Control CT tubes 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 specimen transport medium (STM), 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.

If the results are CT or GC positive or equivocal, 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 Aptima assay software, using the Aptima Combo 2 protocol, and presented as individual CT and GC test results. A test result may be a negative, equivocal, positive, or invalid as determined by the kinetic type and total RLU in the detection step (see below). A test result may be invalid due to a parameter outside the normal expected ranges. Initial equivocal and invalid test results should be retested.

Kinetic Type	Total RLU (x1000) to give CT Result		
	Negative	Equivocal	Positive
CT only	1 to < 25	25 to < 100	100 to < 4,500
CT and GC	1 to < 85	85 to < 250	250 to < 4,500
CT indeterminate	1 to < 85	85 to < 4,500	N/A

Kinetic Type	Total RLU (x1000) to give GC Result		
	Negative	Equivocal	Positive
GC only	1 to < 60	60 to < 150	150 to < 4,500
GC and CT	1 to < 85	85 to < 250	250 to < 4,500
GC indeterminate	1 to < 85	85 to < 4,500	N/A

### B. Quality Control Results and Acceptability

The Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC and the Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT act as controls for the target capture, amplification, and detection steps of the assay. In accordance with guidelines or requirements of local, state, and/or federal regulations or accrediting organizations, additional controls for cell lysis and RNA stabilization may be included. The Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC serves as the negative control for the GC test results. The Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT serves as the negative control for the CT test results. If desired, a dual negative control furnished by the user can be added to monitor assay background. Correct preparation of specimens is confirmed visually by the presence of a single Aptima collection swab in a swab specimen transport tube, a final volume of urine in between the black fill lines of a urine specimen transport tube, or the absence of a swab in an Aptima specimen transfer tube for PreservCyt liquid Pap specimens.

The Positive Controls must produce the following test results:

Control	Total RLU (x1000)	CT Result	GC Result
Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC	≥ 100 and < 3,000	Positive	Negative
Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT	≥ 150 and < 3,000	Negative	Positive

1. The Aptima assay software automatically evaluates the controls according to the above criteria and the results will be reflected in the results report.
2. Each laboratory should implement appropriate control procedures to satisfy the requirements of CLIA regulations (section 493.1256).
3. Negative controls may not be effective in monitoring random carryover. See *Panther System Analytical Performance* for results from a high-target analytical carryover study that was performed to demonstrate control of carryover on the Panther system.



## C. Specimen Preparation Control (Optional)

The Positive Control, CT / Negative Control, GC and the Positive Control, GC / Negative Control, CT provided in the kit act as controls for the target capture, amplification, and detection steps of the assay and must be included in each assay run. If desired, controls for cell lysis and RNA stabilization in appropriate transport media (PreservCyt Solution, STM) can be tested in accordance with the requirements of appropriate accrediting organizations or individual laboratory procedures. Known positive specimens can serve as controls by being prepared and tested in conjunction with unknown specimens. Specimens used as preparation controls must be stored, handled, and tested according to the package insert. Specimen preparation controls should be interpreted in the same manner as described for patient test specimens. See *Test Interpretation — QC/Patient Results*.

## D. Patient Test Results

1. If the controls in any run do not yield the expected results, test results on patient specimens in the same run must not be reported.
2. Swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and urine specimen results (see Notes below).
  - a. Initial results

<b>CT Pos</b>	Positive for CT rRNA.
<b>CT Neg</b>	Presumed negative for CT rRNA.
<b>CT Equiv</b>	Sample should be retested.
<b>GC Pos</b>	Positive for GC rRNA.
<b>GC Neg</b>	Presumed negative for GC rRNA.
<b>GC Equiv</b>	Sample should be retested.
<b>Invalid</b>	Sample should be retested.

## b. Retest results

<b>CT Pos</b>	Positive for CT rRNA.
<b>CT Neg</b>	Presumed negative for CT rRNA.
<b>CT Equiv</b>	Indeterminate, a new specimen should be collected.
<b>GC Pos</b>	Positive for GC rRNA.
<b>GC Neg</b>	Presumed negative for GC rRNA.
<b>GC Equiv</b>	Indeterminate, a new specimen should be collected.
<b>Invalid</b>	Indeterminate, a new specimen should be collected.

## Notes

- Careful consideration of performance data is recommended for interpreting Aptima Combo 2 assay results for asymptomatic individuals or any individuals in low prevalence populations.
- The first valid result for each analyte is the result that should be reported.
- A negative result does not preclude the presence of a CT or GC infection because results are dependent on adequate specimen collection, absence of inhibitors, and sufficient rRNA to be detected. Test results may be affected by improper specimen collection, improper specimen storage, technical error, or specimen mix-up.
- As is true for all non-culture methods, a positive specimen obtained from a patient after therapeutic treatment cannot be interpreted as indicating the presence of viable CT or GC.
- A vaginal swab is the recommended specimen type for female patients who are clinically suspected of having a chlamydial or gonococcal infection (27).
- If both a Pap and endocervical swab are collected, the PreserCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen must be collected before the endocervical swab specimen.

## 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 package 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 CT or GC.
- C. The presence of mucus in endocervical specimens does not interfere with the detection of CT or GC by the Aptima Combo 2 assay. However, to ensure collection of cells infected with CT, columnar epithelial cells lining the endocervix should be sampled. If excess mucus is not removed, sampling of these cells is not ensured.
- 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. The Aptima Combo 2 assay is not intended for the evaluation of suspected sexual abuse or for other medico-legal indications. For those patients for whom a false positive result may have adverse psycho-social impact, the CDC recommends retesting (4).
- 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. Refer to the package insert of the appropriate Hologic specimen collection kit.
- G. Therapeutic failure or success cannot be determined with the Aptima Combo 2 assay since nucleic acid may persist following appropriate antimicrobial therapy.
- H. Results from the Aptima Combo 2 assay should be interpreted in conjunction with other laboratory and 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. The Aptima Combo 2 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.
- K. Performance of the Aptima Specimen Transfer kit was not evaluated for testing the same PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen both before and after ThinPrep Pap processing.
- L. PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens processed with instruments other than the ThinPrep 2000 processor have not been evaluated for use in Aptima assays.
- M. Patient-collected vaginal swab specimens are an option for screening women when a pelvic exam is not otherwise indicated.
- N. The patient-collected vaginal swab specimen application is limited to clinical settings where support/counseling is available to explain procedures and precautions.

- O. The Aptima Combo 2 assay has not been validated for use with vaginal swab specimens collected by patients at home.
- P. The performance of the Aptima Combo 2 assay has not been evaluated in adolescents less than 14 years of age.
- Q. The performance of the Panther system has not been evaluated at altitudes above 6561 feet (2000 m).
- R. There is no evidence of degradation of nucleic acids in PreservCyt Solution. If a PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen has small numbers of CT and GC cellular material, uneven distribution of this cellular material may occur. Also, when compared to direct sampling with the Aptima Specimen Transport Medium, the additional volume of PreservCyt Solution results in greater dilution of the sample material. These factors may affect the ability to detect small numbers of organisms in the collected material. If negative results from the specimen do not fit with the clinical impression, a new specimen may be necessary.
- S. Customers must independently validate an LIS transfer process.
- T. First catch female urine specimens are acceptable but may detect up to 10% fewer CT/GC infections when compared with vaginal and endocervical swab specimens (5).

## Panther System Expected Values

### Prevalence

The prevalence of CT and GC in patient populations depends on risk factors such as age, gender, the presence or absence of symptoms, the type of clinic, and the sensitivity of the test used to detect infections. A summary of the positivity of three CT and GC disease outcomes, as determined by the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, is shown in Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 for four multi-center clinical studies by clinical site and overall.

*Table 1: Clinical Study 1. Positivity of CT and GC Infections as Determined by the Aptima Combo 2 Assay in Male Urethral Swab, Vaginal Swab, PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap, and Endocervical Swab Samples by Clinical Site*

Site	Positivity % (# positive/# tested with valid results)											
	MS			CVS/PVS			PCyt			FS		
	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+
<b>1</b>	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	9.9 (21/212)	3.3 (7/212)	3.8 (8/212)	8.9 (20/225)	2.7 (6/225)	3.1 (7/225)	10.4 (20/193)	3.1 (6/193)	3.6 (7/193)
<b>2</b>	13.9 (28/202)	5.9 (12/202)	3.0 (6/202)	8.3 (19/230)	3.9 (9/230)	1.3 (3/230)	8.8 (21/239)	4.6 (11/239)	0.8 (2/239)	8.2 (19/231)	4.8 (11/231)	0.9 (2/231)
<b>3</b>	1.3 (1/76)	1.3 (1/76)	0.0 (0/76)	2.7 (6/222)	0.5 (1/222)	0.0 (0/222)	3.1 (7/226)	0.4 (1/226)	0.0 (0/226)	2.7 (6/223)	0.4 (1/223)	0.0 (0/223)
<b>4</b>	24.4 (33/135)	1.5 (2/135)	4.4 (6/135)	11.7 (40/342)	1.5 (5/342)	1.2 (4/342)	10.2 (35/342)	1.5 (5/342)	0.9 (3/342)	11.3 (38/337)	1.8 (6/337)	0.9 (3/337)
<b>5</b>	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	4.5 (1/22)	0.0 (0/22)	0.0 (0/22)	4.8 (1/21)	0.0 (0/21)	0.0 (0/21)	4.3 (1/23)	0.0 (0/23)	0.0 (0/23)
<b>6</b>	21.5 (28/130)	5.4 (7/130)	0.8 (1/130)	11.9 (13/109)	3.7 (4/109)	0.9 (1/109)	8.7 (10/115)	1.7 (2/115)	0.9 (1/115)	8.8 (10/114)	1.8 (2/114)	0.9 (1/114)
<b>7</b>	16.7 (1/6)	0.0 (0/6)	0.0 (0/6)	3.2 (5/157)	2.5 (4/157)	0.6 (1/157)	2.5 (4/161)	2.5 (4/161)	0.6 (1/161)	2.6 (4/152)	2.6 (4/152)	0.7 (1/152)
<b>All</b>	16.6 (91/549)	4.0 (22/549)	2.4 (13/549)	8.1 (105/1294)	2.3 (30/1294)	1.3 (17/1294)	7.4 (98/1329)	2.2 (29/1329)	1.1 (14/1329)	7.7 (98/1273)	2.4 (30/1273)	1.1 (14/1273)

CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FS = female endocervical swab, MS = male urethral swab, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab.

Table 2: Clinical Study 1 and Clinical Study 2. Positivity of CT and GC Infections as Determined by the Aptima Combo 2 Assay in Male Urine Samples by Clinical Site

Site	Positivity % (# positive/# tested with valid results)		
	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+
1	6.0 (6/100)	0.0 (0/100)	0.0 (0/100)
2	3.0 (2/67)	3.0 (2/67)	0.0 (0/67)
3	0.0 (0/109)	0.9 (1/109)	0.0 (0/109)
4	13.0 (13/100)	3.0 (3/100)	1.0 (1/100)
5	13.6 (17/125)	5.6 (7/125)	0.0 (0/125)
6	15.1 (43/284)	7.0 (20/284)	2.1 (6/284)
7	1.4 (3/212)	0.9 (2/212)	0.0 (0/212)
8	1.3 (1/75)	0.0 (0/75)	0.0 (0/75)
9	16.7 (42/251)	5.2 (13/251)	3.2 (8/251)
10	20.5 (17/83)	1.2 (1/83)	0.0 (0/83)
11	4.1 (6/146)	0.7 (1/146)	0.7 (1/146)
12	14.3 (16/112)	4.5 (5/112)	2.7 (3/112)
13	8.9 (10/112)	2.7 (3/112)	2.7 (3/112)
14	7.7 (2/26)	0.0 (0/26)	0.0 (0/26)
<b>All</b>	9.9 (178/1802)	3.2 (58/1802)	1.2 (22/1802)

Note. CT and GC positivity was estimated using symptomatic male urine samples from Clinical Study 2 and asymptomatic male urine samples from both studies.

Table 3: Clinical Study 3. Positivity of CT and GC Infections as Determined by the Aptima Combo 2 Assay in Female Urine Samples by Clinical Site

Site	Positivity % (# positive/# tested with valid results)		
	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+
1	14.8 (23/155)	3.2 (5/155)	1.9 (3/155)
2	2.5 (5/199)	0.0 (0/199)	0.0 (0/199)
3	2.0 (4/199)	0.0 (0/199)	0.0 (0/199)
4	6.3 (5/79)	0.0 (0/79)	0.0 (0/79)
5	5.1 (5/99)	0.0 (0/99)	0.0 (0/99)
6	9.8 (15/153)	2.0 (3/153)	2.0 (3/153)
7	7.3 (18/247)	0.0 (0/247)	0.0 (0/247)
8	7.4 (14/189)	1.1 (2/189)	0.0 (0/189)
9	6.7 (6/90)	0.0 (0/90)	1.1 (1/90)
10	6.1 (6/99)	0.0 (0/99)	0.0 (0/99)
11	3.2 (3/93)	0.0 (0/93)	0.0 (0/93)
12	0.0 (0/97)	0.0 (0/97)	0.0 (0/97)
13	8.7 (26/299)	1.0 (3/299)	0.3 (1/299)
14	4.6 (9/196)	0.0 (0/196)	0.0 (0/196)
15	5.0 (5/100)	0.0 (0/100)	0.0 (0/100)
16	8.8 (23/261)	1.5 (4/261)	0.8 (2/261)
17	20.0 (5/25)	4.0 (1/25)	0.0 (0/25)
All	6.7 (172/2580)	0.7 (18/2580)	0.4 (10/2580)

Table 4: Clinical Study 4. Positivity of CT and GC Infections as Determined by the Aptima Combo 2 Assay in Rectal and Throat Swab Samples by Clinical Site

Site	Positivity % (# positive/# tested with valid results)					
	RS			TS		
	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+	CT+/GC-	CT-/GC+	CT+/GC+
1	10.6 (15/141)	6.4 (9/141)	2.1 (3/141)	2.8 (4/143)	9.8 (14/143)	0.0 (0/143)
2	6.3 (14/223)	1.3 (3/223)	0.4 (1/223)	0.4 (1/225)	1.3 (3/225)	0.0 (0/225)
3	4.5 (16/357)	4.5 (16/357)	3.4 (12/357)	0.8 (3/363)	5.5 (20/363)	0.3 (1/363)
4	1.8 (2/110)	0.9 (1/110)	0.0 (0/110)	0.9 (1/112)	1.8 (2/112)	0.0 (0/112)
5	4.2 (14/332)	3.6 (12/332)	2.4 (8/332)	1.5 (5/333)	4.5 (15/333)	0.6 (2/333)
6	2.5 (10/395)	5.8 (23/395)	0.8 (3/395)	1.0 (4/398)	7.8 (31/398)	0.3 (1/398)
7	5.5 (16/290)	5.5 (16/290)	3.4 (10/290)	1.7 (5/288)	9.7 (28/288)	0.3 (1/288)
8	10.9 (40/366)	6.3 (23/366)	1.6 (6/366)	4.1 (15/367)	10.4 (38/367)	0.3 (1/367)
9	9.8 (34/348)	12.9 (45/348)	4.6 (16/348)	1.7 (6/355)	17.2 (61/355)	0.8 (3/355)
All	6.3 (161/2562)	5.8 (148/2562)	2.3 (59/2562)	1.7 (44/2584)	8.2 (212/2584)	0.3 (9/2584)

RS = rectal swab, TS = throat swab

Note. CT and GC positivity was estimated using rectal swab and throat swab samples from symptomatic and asymptomatic subjects from Clinical Study 4.

### Positive and Negative Predictive Values for Hypothetical Prevalence Rates

The estimated positive and negative predictive values (PPV and NPV) of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for different hypothetical prevalence rates are shown for each specimen type in Table 5. For each specimen type, the PPV and NPV are derived for different hypothetical prevalence rates using the sensitivity and specificity estimates from three multi-center clinical studies (see Tables 6, 8, 12, and 14).

Table 5: Positive and Negative Predictive Values for Hypothetical Prevalence Rates by Specimen Type

Specimen Type	Hypothetical Prevalence (%)	CT Detection		GC Detection	
		PPV (%)	NPV (%)	PPV (%)	NPV (%)
Clinician-Collected Vaginal Swab/Patient-Collected Vaginal Swab	1	38.9	100	70.6	100
	2	56.3	99.9	82.9	100
	5	76.8	99.9	92.6	99.9
	10	87.5	99.7	96.3	99.7
	15	91.7	99.5	97.7	99.6
	20	94.0	99.3	98.3	99.4
	25	95.5	99.1	98.8	99.2
PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap	1	100	100	100	100
	2	100	100	100	100
	5	100	99.9	100	100
	10	100	99.8	100	100
	15	100	99.7	100	100
	20	100	99.6	100	100
	25	100	99.4	100	100
Female Endocervical Swab	1	58.5	100	85.8	100
	2	74.0	99.9	92.4	100
	5	88.0	99.9	96.9	100
	10	93.9	99.7	98.5	100
	15	96.1	99.5	99.1	100
	20	97.2	99.3	99.3	100
	25	97.9	99.1	99.5	100
Male Urethral Swab	1	53.1	100	100	100
	2	69.6	100	100	100
	5	85.5	100	100	100
	10	92.6	100	100	100
	15	95.2	100	100	100
	20	96.6	100	100	100
	25	97.4	100	100	100
Male Urine	1	83.6	100	77.4	100
	2	91.2	99.9	87.4	100
	5	96.4	99.7	94.7	99.9
	10	98.2	99.5	97.4	99.9
	15	98.9	99.2	98.4	99.8
	20	99.2	98.8	98.8	99.7
	25	99.4	98.4	99.1	99.6
Rectal Swab	1	46.5	99.9	64.2	100
	2	63.7	99.8	78.4	99.9
	5	81.9	99.6	90.3	99.9
	10	90.5	99.1	95.2	99.7
	15	93.8	98.5	96.9	99.6
	20	95.6	97.9	97.8	99.4
	25	96.6	97.3	98.3	99.2



Table 5: Positive and Negative Predictive Values for Hypothetical Prevalence Rates by Specimen Type

Specimen Type	Hypothetical Prevalence (%)	CT Detection		GC Detection	
		PPV (%)	NPV (%)	PPV (%)	NPV (%)
Throat Swab	1	73.8	99.9	48.0	100
	2	85.1	99.8	65.1	99.9
	5	93.6	99.4	82.8	99.8
	10	96.9	98.7	91.0	99.6
	15	98.0	98.0	94.2	99.3
	20	98.6	97.1	95.8	99.0
	25	98.9	96.2	96.8	98.7

Note. Aptima Combo 2 assay performance was estimated using vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, female endocervical swab, and male urethral swab sample results from Clinical Study 1, symptomatic male urine sample results from Clinical Study 2, asymptomatic male urine sample results from Clinical Studies 1 and 2, and rectal swab and throat swab sample results from Clinical Study 4.

## Panther System Clinical Performance

Four clinical studies were performed. Aptima Combo 2 assay clinical performance was estimated with male urethral swab, vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and endocervical swab specimens in Clinical Study 1, with male urine specimens in Clinical Study 2, with female urine specimens in Clinical Study 3, and with rectal swab and throat swab specimens in Clinical Study 4.

### Clinical Study 1. Vaginal Swab, PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap, Female Endocervical Swab, and Male Urethral Swab Specimen Clinical Study<sup>2</sup>

A prospective, multi-center clinical study was conducted to establish the performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system. Specimens were collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic men (n=580) and women (n=1332) enrolled from 7 geographically and ethnically diverse US clinical sites, including obstetrics and gynecology, family planning, public health, and STD clinics. Subjects were classified as symptomatic if symptoms were reported by the subject. Subjects were classified as asymptomatic if the subject did not report symptoms. Of the 580 male subjects, none were <18 years of age, 72 were 18 to 20 years of age, 201 were 21 to 25 years of age, and 307 were >25 years of age. Of the 1332 female subjects, 11 were 14 to 15 years of age, 59 were 16 to 17 years of age, 319 were 18 to 20 years of age, 401 were 21 to 25 years of age, and 542 were >25 years of age.

Up to 2 specimens were collected from each male subject (1 urethral swab and 1 first-catch urine, in that order) and up to 4 specimens were collected from each female subject (1 first-catch urine, 1 vaginal swab, 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimen, and 1 endocervical swab, in that order). All specimens were clinician-collected except urine specimens and approximately half of the vaginal swab specimens, which were collected by the subject at the clinic. Approximately half of the PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens were collected with a broom-type device and half were collected with a spatula and cytobrush. Samples were prepared for Aptima testing in accordance with the appropriate Aptima specimen collection kit package insert instructions.

All evaluable samples (567 male urethral swab, 580 male urine, 1319 vaginal swab, 1330 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and 1310 endocervical swab samples) were tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in accordance with package insert instructions. The samples were split among three laboratories (two external laboratories and in-house). Samples with initial invalid, equivocal, or error results were retested. Eighteen (18) male urethral swab, 25 vaginal swab, 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and 37 endocervical swab samples had final invalid results and were excluded from the analyses. Most of the invalid results were due to insufficient sample volume. One vaginal swab and 1 endocervical swab had final CT equivocal results and 1 PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap sample and 1 endocervical swab had final GC equivocal results and were excluded from the analyses.

Male urethral swab, male and female urine, and PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap samples were tested with cleared nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) to establish the infected status. The infected status algorithm used results from two specimen types and two reference NAATs. Subjects were categorized as infected if a positive result occurred in each of the two reference NAATs (see Tables 24, 25, 32, and 34 for the infected status algorithms). For female subjects, if the positive NAAT results occurred only in the urine specimens and not in the PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens, the subject was categorized as infected; however, for the

<sup>2</sup> This study included testing of male urine samples with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system that were not included in the original performance results due to the low prevalence of GC in the study population.

evaluation of the non-urine specimen types, the specimens were considered non-infected. Subjects that could not be categorized as infected or not infected were excluded from the performance analyses.

In addition, male urine samples tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system were excluded from the performance analyses due to the low prevalence of GC in the study population, particularly in the asymptomatic subjects.

## Clinical Study 2. Male Urine Specimen Clinical Study

A prospective, multi-center clinical study was conducted to establish the performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in male urine specimens. Specimens were collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic men (n=1492) enrolled from 13 geographically and ethnically diverse US clinical research sites, and family planning, public health, men's health, and STD clinics. Subjects were classified as symptomatic if symptoms were reported by the subject. Subjects were classified as asymptomatic if the subject did not report symptoms. Of the 1492 subjects enrolled, 14 were withdrawn.

Two specimens were collected from each subject (1 urethral swab and 1 first-catch urine, in that order). The urethral swab specimens were clinician-collected, and urine specimens were collected by the subject at the clinic. Urine specimens from each subject were processed into multiple samples for CT/GC testing with different NAATs in accordance with the instructions in the appropriate specimen collection kit package insert. The male urine samples for Aptima Combo 2 assay testing on the Panther system were split among three external laboratories.

All 1478 male urine samples from non-withdrawn subjects were tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in accordance with the Aptima Combo 2 assay package insert instructions. Samples with initial invalid, equivocal, or error results were retested. One male urine sample had a final invalid result and was excluded from the analyses. The invalid result was due to insufficient sample volume. Of the remaining 1477 evaluable male subjects, 46 were 16 to 17 years of age, 155 were 18 to 20 years of age, 524 were 21 to 30 years of age, 279 were 31 to 40 years of age, and 473 were >40 years of age.

Male urethral swab and urine samples were tested with cleared NAATs to establish the infected status (see Tables 26 and 36 for the infected status algorithms). The infected status algorithm used urethral swab and urine sample results from one reference CT and GC NAAT and urine sample results from two additional reference CT and GC NAATs to generate four reference results for each analyte. Subjects were categorized as infected if a positive result occurred in at least two of the reference NAATs. Subjects that could not be categorized as infected or not infected were excluded from the performance analyses; 1 subject had an indeterminate CT infected status and was excluded from the performance analyses for detection of CT.

## Clinical Study 3. Female Urine Specimen Clinical Study

A retrospective study that used results and remnant female urine samples from a previously completed prospective, multi-center clinical study was conducted to establish the performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in female urine specimens. Specimens were collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic women (n=2640) enrolled from 17 geographically and ethnically diverse US clinical sites, including family planning clinics, academic center clinics, and public health clinics. Subjects were classified as symptomatic if symptoms were reported by the subject. Subjects were classified as asymptomatic if the subject did not report symptoms. Of the 2640 subjects enrolled, 42 were withdrawn.

Three specimens were used from each subject (1 first-catch urine and 2 vaginal swabs, in that order). The urine specimens were collected by the subject at the clinic and the vaginal swab specimens were clinician-collected. Urine specimens from each subject were processed into multiple samples for CT/GC testing with different NAATs in accordance with the instructions in the appropriate specimen collection kit package insert. The female urine samples for Aptima Combo 2 assay testing on the Panther system were split among three external laboratories.

Female urine samples were tested with cleared NAATs to establish a composite comparator algorithm (CCA) result (see Tables 21 and 27). The CCA used urine sample results from up to three reference CT and GC NAATs to generate reference results for each analyte. Subjects were categorized as positive if 2 out of 3 reference NAAT results were positive and negative if 2 out of 3 reference NAAT results were negative. Subjects who could not be categorized as CCA-positive or CCA-negative were excluded from the performance analyses.

Of the 2598 non-withdrawn subjects, 2581 had urine samples tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in accordance with the Aptima Combo 2 assay package insert instructions. Seventeen subjects had urine samples that were withdrawn or not collected (missing both CT and GC Aptima Combo 2 assay [Panther system] results). Samples with initial invalid, equivocal, or error results were retested. All 2581 samples had final valid results after required retesting. One sample had a repeat CT equivocal result and one sample had a repeat GC equivocal result.

Of the 2581 subjects that had valid Aptima Combo 2 assay (Panther system) results, 2580 subjects had a conclusive CT and/or GC composite comparator status and were evaluable for performance; one subject had unknown composite comparator status for both CT and GC and was not evaluable. One evaluable subject had a final equivocal CT result (negative GC result), and one evaluable subject had a final equivocal GC result (negative CT result). Of the 2580 evaluable subjects, 47 were 16 to 17 years of age, 346 were 18 to 20 years of age, 1350 were 21 to 30 years of age, 550 were 31 to 40 years of age, and 287 were >40 years of age.

Of the 2580 evaluable subjects, 2572 subjects were evaluable for performance analyses for CT detection (including one with a final equivocal result). The remaining 8 subjects had an unknown composite comparator status for CT. Of the 2580 evaluable subjects, 2579 subjects were evaluable for performance analyses for GC detection (including one with a final equivocal result). The remaining subject had an unknown composite comparator status for GC. Samples with final equivocal results were categorized as false negative relative to the CCA result (43).

In addition, female urine detected 8.3% fewer CT infections than vaginal and endocervical swab specimens and 12.9% fewer GC infections than vaginal swab specimens and 15.2% fewer GC infections than endocervical swab specimens when compared using the patient infected status (PIS) algorithm.

#### **Clinical Study 4. Throat and Rectal Swab Specimen Clinical Study**

A prospective, multi-center clinical study was conducted to establish the performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system in throat swab and rectal swab specimens. Specimens were collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic women and men enrolled at 9 geographically and ethnically diverse US clinical sites, including STI screening and management, family planning, student health, women's health, and HIV management clinics, and clinics focusing on the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) population. Subjects were classified as symptomatic at the throat and/or rectal anatomic site if the subject reported anatomic site-specific symptoms. Of the 2767 subjects enrolled, 8 did not complete the collection visit and had no specimens sent for testing, 167 had samples tested but

were excluded due to temperature excursions that compromised specimen integrity, and 1 had no samples tested in error.

Of the 2591 non-excluded subjects that had at least one sample type tested, 181 were 18 to 20 years of age, 565 were 21 to 25 years of age, and 1845 were >25 years of age.

Up to eight specimens were collected by the clinician from each subject: 4 throat swab and 4 rectal swab specimens, collected in randomized order. Specimens were processed for CT/GC testing with the Aptima Combo 2 assay and different NAATs in accordance with the instructions in the appropriate specimen collection kit package insert.

Results from up to three reference NAATs – cleared for the detection of urogenital CT/GC infection and validated for use in throat and rectal swab specimens – were used to establish the anatomic site infected status (ASIS) at each anatomic site for each subject. The ASIS was determined based on results from testing the same sample type. Subjects were categorized as infected if a positive result occurred in at least two reference NAATs, and as not infected if at least 2 of the reference results were negative; the third (tie-breaker) reference was only required if the first 2 reference results were discordant (see Tables 22, 23, 28, and 29 for the ASIS algorithms).

In total, 5500 samples were tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, including samples from the 167 subjects with results excluded due to temperature excursions. The samples were split between two external laboratories. Sites were instructed to retest samples with initial invalid, equivocal, or error results. Of the 5500 samples tested, 2 (0.04%) had initial invalid results, and 30 (0.55%) had initial equivocal results for either CT or GC. Both samples with initial invalid results were retested; one sample was negative for CT and GC on retest and the other was invalid on retest. Of the 30 samples with initial equivocal results, 5 were not retested, 14 had equivocal results on retest, 5 had negative results on retest, 5 had positive results on retest, and 1 was invalid on retest.

Of the 2591 non-excluded subjects that had at least one sample type tested, the following samples were excluded from performance analyses: 6 throat samples were excluded from evaluations of CT performance (4 not tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay, and 2 with invalid/indeterminate ASIS); 12 throat samples were excluded from evaluations of GC performance (4 with no result reported for the Aptima Combo 2 assay, 3 with final equivocal Aptima Combo 2 assay results, and 5 with invalid/indeterminate ASIS); 29 rectal samples were excluded from evaluations of CT performance (2 samples were not collected, 1 with invalid results for the Aptima Combo 2 assay, 9 not tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay, 12 with final equivocal Aptima Combo 2 assay results (2 of which had indeterminate ASIS), and 5 with invalid/indeterminate ASIS); and 22 rectal swab samples were excluded from evaluations of GC performance (2 samples were not collected, 1 with invalid results for the Aptima Combo 2 assay, 9 not tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay, 5 with final equivocal Aptima Combo 2 assay results, and 5 with invalid/indeterminate ASIS).

### ***Chlamydia trachomatis* Performance Results**

Performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection were estimated for each specimen type and are displayed in Tables 6 and 7 and 8 including data from the four clinical studies. The infected status algorithm differed among the four clinical studies (See Tables 18 through 23 for the CT infected status algorithms). Table 6 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection and the prevalence of CT (based on the infected status) in male urine samples and urethral swab specimens, and in female vaginal swab, endocervical swab, and PCyt specimens.

Table 7 shows the positive percent agreement (PPA) and negative percent agreement (NPA) of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection based on the CCA in female urine samples.

Table 8 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection and the prevalence of CT based on the ASIS in throat swab and rectal swab specimens.

**Table 6: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection in Female and Male Specimens**

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
CVS/PVS	1274	104	18	1149	3	8.4	97.2 (92.1-99.0)	98.5 (97.6-99.0)	85.2 (78.8-90.5)	99.7 (99.3-99.9)
PCyt	1311	112	0	1197	2	8.7	98.2 (93.8-99.5)	100 (99.7-100)	100 (96.9-100)	99.8 (99.4-100)
FS	1254	104	8	1139	3	8.5	97.2 (92.1-99.0)	99.3 (98.6-99.6)	92.9 (87.1-96.7)	99.7 (99.3-99.9)
MS	549	100	4	445	0	18.2	100 (96.3-100)	99.1 (97.7-99.7)	96.2 (90.8-98.9)	100 (99.2-100)
MU	1799	197	3	1589	10	11.5	95.2 (91.3-97.4)	99.8 (99.4-99.9)	98.5 (95.8-99.7)	99.4 (98.9-99.7)

CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, FS = female endocervical swab, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NPV = negative predictive value, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

<sup>1</sup> Male urethral swab, vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and endocervical swab sample results are from Clinical Study 1. Symptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Study 2, and asymptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Studies 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

**Table 7: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection in Female Urine Samples**

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	CCA+ AC2+	CCA- AC2+	CCA- AC2-	CCA+ AC2- <sup>2</sup>	PPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
FU	2572	174	5	2391	2	98.9 (96.0-99.7)	99.8 (99.5-99.9)

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, CCA = composite comparator algorithm, CI = confidence interval, FU = female urine, NPA = negative percent agreement, PPA = positive percent agreement.

<sup>1</sup> Symptomatic and asymptomatic female urine sample results are from Clinical Study 3.

<sup>2</sup> Includes equivocal results from Panther AC2 testing. Equivocal results from AC2 testing are considered indeterminate; a new specimen should be collected.

<sup>3</sup> Score CI.

**Table 8: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection in Rectal Swab and Throat Swab Specimens**

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
RS	2562	197	25	2322	18	8.4	91.6 <sup>4</sup> (87.2-94.6)	98.9 <sup>4</sup> (98.4-99.3)	88.7 (84.4-92.3)	99.2 (98.8-99.5)
TS	2585	45	8	2526	6	2.0	88.2 (76.6-94.5)	99.7 (99.4-99.8)	84.9 (74.5-92.5)	99.8 (99.5-99.9)

CI = confidence interval, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, NPV = negative predictive value, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, RS = rectal swab, TN = true negative, TP = true positive, TS = throat swab.

<sup>1</sup> Rectal swab and throat swab sample results are from Clinical Study 4.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

<sup>4</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.4% (10/2572). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity= 89.5% (197/220), 95% CI: 84.8% - 92.9% and specificity = 98.7% (2322/2352), 95% CI: 98.2% - 99.1%.

Table 9 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection and the prevalence of CT (based on the infected status) in male urine samples and urethral swab specimens, and in female vaginal swab, endocervical swab, and PCyt specimens by symptom status. CT prevalence was higher in symptomatic men and women, compared to asymptomatic subjects.

Table 10 shows the PPA and NPA of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection based on the CCA in female urine samples by symptom status.

Table 11 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT based on the ASIS in throat swab and rectal swab specimens by symptom status. CT prevalence was higher in symptomatic subjects, compared to asymptomatic subjects.

*Table 9: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection by Symptom Status in Female and Male Specimens*

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
CVS/PVS	Sym	810	73	8	729	0	9.0	100 (95.0-100)	98.9 (97.9-99.4)	90.1 (82.3-95.5)	100 (99.5-100)
	Asym	464	31	10	420	3	7.3	91.2 (77.0-97.0)	97.7 (95.8-98.7)	75.6 (63.1-86.2)	99.3 (98.1-99.8)
PCyt	Sym	838	76	0	762	0	9.1	100 (95.2-100)	100 (99.5-100)	100 (95.4-100)	100 (99.5-100)
	Asym	473	36	0	435	2	8.0	94.7 (82.7-98.5)	100 (99.1-100)	100 (91.1-100)	99.5 (98.5-99.9)
FS	Sym	794	71	5	718	0	8.9	100 (94.9-100)	99.3 (98.4-99.7)	93.4 (85.9-97.8)	100 (99.5-100)
	Asym	460	33	3	421	3	7.8	91.7 (78.2-97.1)	99.3 (97.9-99.8)	91.7 (79.9-98.0)	99.3 (98.1-99.8)
MS	Sym	238	59	1	178	0	24.8	100 (93.9-100)	99.4 (96.9-99.9)	98.3 (91.5-100)	100 (98.0-100)
	Asym	311	41	3	267	0	13.2	100 (91.4-100)	98.9 (96.8-99.6)	93.2 (82.5-98.5)	100 (98.7-100)
MU	Sym	497	85	1	406	5	18.1	94.4 (87.6-97.6)	99.8 (98.6-100)	98.8 (94.1-100)	98.8 (97.3-99.6)
	Asym	1302	112	2	1183	5	9.0	95.7 (90.4-98.2)	99.8 (99.4-100)	98.2 (94.1-99.8)	99.6 (99.1-99.9)

Asym = asymptomatic, CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, FS = female endocervical swab, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NPV = negative predictive value, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, Sym = symptomatic, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

<sup>1</sup> Male urethral swab, vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, and endocervical swab sample results are from Clinical Study 1. Symptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Study 2, and asymptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Studies 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

Table 10: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection by Symptom Status in Female Urine Samples

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	CCA+ AC2+	CCA- AC2+	CCA- AC2-	CCA+ AC2- <sup>2</sup>	PPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
FU	Sym	1379	109	2 <sup>4</sup>	1267 <sup>5</sup>	1	99.1 (95.0-99.8)	99.8 (99.4-100)
	Asym	1193	65	3 <sup>6</sup>	1124 <sup>7</sup>	1 <sup>2</sup>	98.5 (91.9-99.7)	99.7 (99.2-99.9)

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, Asym = asymptomatic, CCA = composite comparator algorithm, CI = confidence interval, FU = female urine, NPA = negative percent agreement, PPA = positive percent agreement, Sym = symptomatic.

<sup>1</sup> Symptomatic and asymptomatic female urine sample results are from Clinical Study 3.

<sup>2</sup> Includes equivocal results from Panther AC2 testing. Equivocal results from AC2 testing are considered indeterminate; a new specimen should be collected.

<sup>3</sup> Score CI.

<sup>4</sup> 2/2 subjects had positive CT vaginal swab sample results in both reference NAATs.

<sup>5</sup> 38/1267 subjects had at least one positive CT vaginal swab sample result by a reference NAAT; one or more vaginal swab sample reference results were not available 11/1267 subjects; 1218/1267 subjects had negative vaginal swab sample reference results.

<sup>6</sup> 1/3 subject had positive CT vaginal swab sample results in both reference NAATs; 2/3 subjects had negative vaginal swab sample reference results.

<sup>7</sup> 20/1124 subjects had at least one positive CT vaginal swab sample result by a reference NAAT; one or more vaginal swab sample reference results were not available for 11/1124 subjects; 1093/1124 subjects had negative vaginal swab sample reference results.

Table 11: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for CT Detection by Symptom Status in Rectal Swab and Throat Swab Specimens

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
RS	Sym	190	23	2	164	1	12.6	95.8 <sup>4</sup> (79.8-99.3)	98.8 <sup>4</sup> (95.7-99.7)	92.0 (77.0-98.8)	99.4 (97.0-100)
	Asym	2372	174	23	2158	17	8.1	91.1 <sup>5</sup> (86.2-94.4)	98.9 <sup>5</sup> (98.4-99.3)	88.3 (83.6-92.1)	99.2 (98.8-99.5)
TS	Sym	306	9	1	296	0	2.9	100 (70.1-100)	99.7 (98.1-99.9)	90.0 (61.9-99.7)	100 (99.0-100)
	Asym	2279	36	7	2230	6	1.8	85.7 (72.2-93.3)	99.7 (99.4-99.8)	83.7 (71.9-92.4)	99.7 (99.5-99.9)

CI = confidence interval, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, NPV = negative predictive value, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, RS = rectal swab, Sym = symptomatic, TN = true negative, TP = true positive, TS = throat swab.

<sup>1</sup> Rectal swab and throat swab sample results are from Clinical Study 4.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

<sup>4</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.5% (1/191). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 95.8% (23/24), 95% CI: 79.8% - 99.3% and specificity = 98.2% (164/167), 95% CI: 94.9% - 99.4%.

<sup>5</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.4% (9/2381). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 88.8% (174/196), 95% CI: 83.6% - 92.5% and specificity = 98.8 (2158/2185), 95% CI: 98.2% - 99.1%.



### Neisseria gonorrhoeae Performance Results

Performance characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection were estimated for each specimen type and are displayed in Tables 12, 13 and 14 including data from the four clinical studies. The infected status algorithm differed among the four clinical studies (see Tables 24 through 29 for the GC infected status algorithms). Table 12 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection and the prevalence of GC (based on the infected status) in male urine samples and urethral swab specimens, and in female vaginal swab, endocervical swab, and PCyt specimens.

Table 13 shows the PPA and NPA of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection based on the CCA in female urine samples.

Table 14 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection, and the prevalence of GC based on the ASIS in rectal swab and throat swab specimens.

**Table 12: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection in Female and Male Specimens**

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
CVS/PVS	1258	42	5	1210	1	3.4	97.7 (87.9-99.6)	99.6 (99.0-99.8)	89.4 (78.6-96.1)	99.9 (99.6-100)
PCyt	1293	43	0	1250	0	3.3	100 (91.8-100)	100 (99.7-100)	100 (92.1-100)	100 (99.7-100)
FS	1238	42	2	1194	0	3.4	100 (91.6-100)	99.8 (99.4-100)	95.5 (85.4-99.4)	100 (99.7-100)
MS	546	34	0	512	0	6.2	100 (89.8-100)	100 (99.3-100)	100 (90.2-100)	100 (99.3-100)
MU	1797	75	5	1716	1	4.2	98.7 (92.9-99.8)	99.7 (99.3-99.9)	93.8 (86.7-97.8)	99.9 (99.7-100)

CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, FS = female endocervical swab, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NPV = negative predictive value, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

<sup>1</sup> Vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, endocervical swab, and male urethral swab sample results are from Clinical Study 1. Symptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Study 2, and asymptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Studies 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

**Table 13: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection in Female Urine Samples**

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	CCA+ AC2+	CCA- AC2+	CCA- AC2-	CCA+ AC2- <sup>2</sup>	PPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
FU	2579	28	0	2550	1	96.6 (82.8-99.4)	100 (99.8-100)

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, CCA = composite comparator algorithm, CI = confidence interval, FU = female urine, NPA = negative percent agreement, PPA = positive percent agreement.

<sup>1</sup> Symptomatic and asymptomatic female urine sample results are from Clinical Study 3.

<sup>2</sup> Includes equivocal results from Panther AC2 testing. Equivocal results from AC2 testing are considered indeterminate; a new specimen should be collected.

<sup>3</sup> Score CI.

Table 14: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection in Rectal Swab and Throat Swab Specimens

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
<b>RS</b>	2569	192	13	2359	5	7.7	97.5 <sup>4</sup> (94.2-98.9)	99.5 <sup>4</sup> (99.1-99.7)	93.7 (89.8-96.4)	99.8 (99.5-99.9)
<b>TS</b>	2579	195	25	2351	8	7.9	96.1 <sup>5</sup> (92.4-98.0)	98.9 <sup>5</sup> (98.5-99.3)	88.6 (84.2-92.2)	99.7 (99.3-99.9)

CI = confidence interval, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, NPV = negative predictive value, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, RS = rectal swab, TN = true negative, TP = true positive, TS = throat swab.

<sup>1</sup> Rectal swab and throat swab sample results are from Clinical Study 4.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

<sup>4</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.2% (5/2574). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false negative or false negative), sensitivity = 96.5% (192/199), 95% CI: 92.9% - 98.3% and specificity = 99.3% (2359/2375), 95% CI: 98.9% - 99.6%.

<sup>5</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.1% (3/2582). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 96.1% (195/203), 95% CI: 92.4% - 98.0% and specificity = 98.8% (2351/2379), 95% CI: 98.3% - 99.2%.

Table 15 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection and the prevalence of GC (based on the infected status) in male urine samples and urethral swab specimens, and in female vaginal swab, endocervical swab, and PCyt specimens by symptom status. GC prevalence was higher in symptomatic men but similar in symptomatic and asymptomatic women.

Table 16 shows the PPA and NPA of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for CT detection based on the CCA in female urine samples by symptom status.

Table 17 shows the sensitivity, specificity, PPV, and NPV of the Aptima Combo 2 assay for GC detection, and the prevalence of GC based on the ASIS in throat swab and rectal swab specimens by symptom status. GC prevalence was higher in symptomatic subjects, compared to asymptomatic subjects.

*Table 15: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection by Symptom Status in Female and Male Specimens*

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
CVS/PVS	Sym	802	27	4	771	0	3.4	100 (87.5-100)	99.5 (98.7-99.8)	87.1 (72.6-96.1)	100 (99.6-100)
	Asym	456	15	1	439	1	3.5	93.8 (71.7-98.9)	99.8 (98.7-100)	93.8 (74.0-99.8)	99.8 (98.9-100)
PCyt	Sym	829	27	0	802	0	3.3	100 (87.5-100)	100 (99.5-100)	100 (88.0-100)	100 (99.6-100)
	Asym	464	16	0	448	0	3.4	100 (80.6-100)	100 (99.1-100)	100 (81.3-100)	100 (99.3-100)
FS	Sym	785	26	1	758	0	3.3	100 (87.1-100)	99.9 (99.3-100)	96.3 (82.4-99.9)	100 (99.5-100)
	Asym	453	16	1	436	0	3.5	100 (80.6-100)	99.8 (98.7-100)	94.1 (74.3-99.8)	100 (99.3-100)
MS	Sym	236	31	0	205	0	13.1	100 (89.0-100)	100 (98.2-100)	100 (89.5-100)	100 (98.3-100)
	Asym	310	3	0	307	0	1.0	100 (43.9-100)	100 (98.8-100)	100 (44.4-100)	100 (99.3-100)
MU	Sym	497	66	1	430	0	13.3	100 (94.5-100)	99.8 (98.7-100)	98.5 (92.3-100)	100 (99.2-100)
	Asym	1300	9	4	1286	1	0.8	90.0 (59.6-98.2)	99.7 (99.2-99.9)	69.2 (45.6-91.7)	99.9 (99.7-100)

Asym = asymptomatic, CI = confidence interval, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, FS = female endocervical swab, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NPV = negative predictive value, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, Sym = symptomatic, TN = true negative, TP = true positive.

<sup>1</sup> Vaginal swab, PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, endocervical swab, and male urethral swab sample results are from Clinical Study 1. Symptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Study 2, and asymptomatic male urine sample results are from Clinical Studies 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

*Table 16: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection by Symptom Status in Female Urine Samples*

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	CCA+ AC2+	CCA- AC2+	CCA- AC2-	CCA+ AC2- <sup>2</sup>	PPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPA % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
FU	Sym	1383	19	0	1363 <sup>4</sup>	1	95.0 (76.4-99.1)	100 (99.7-100)
	Asym	1196	9	0	1187 <sup>5</sup>	0	100 (70.1-100)	100 (99.7-100)

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, Asym = asymptomatic, CCA = composite comparator algorithm, CI = confidence interval, FU = female urine, NPA = negative percent agreement, PPA = positive percent agreement, Sym = symptomatic.

<sup>1</sup> Symptomatic and asymptomatic female urine sample results are from Clinical Study 3.

<sup>2</sup> Includes equivocal results from Panther AC2 testing. Equivocal results from AC2 testing are considered indeterminate; a new specimen should be collected.

<sup>3</sup> Score CI.

<sup>4</sup> 5/1363 subjects had at least one positive GC vaginal swab sample result by a reference NAAT; one or more vaginal swab sample reference results were not available for 11/1363 subjects; 1347/1363 subjects had negative vaginal swab sample reference results.

<sup>5</sup> 6/1187 subjects had at least one positive GC vaginal swab sample result by a reference NAAT; one or more vaginal swab sample reference results were not available for 11/1187 subjects; 1170/1187 asymptomatic subjects had negative vaginal swab sample reference results.

Table 17: Performance Characteristics of the Aptima Combo 2 Assay for GC Detection by Symptom Status in Rectal Swab and Throat Swab Specimens

Specimen Type <sup>1</sup>	Symptom Status	n	TP	FP	TN	FN	Prev %	Sensitivity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	Specificity % (95% CI) <sup>2</sup>	PPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>	NPV % (95% CI) <sup>3</sup>
RS	Sym	192	38	0	154	0	19.8	100 <sup>4</sup> (90.8-100)	100 <sup>4</sup> (97.6-100)	100 (91.2-100)	100 (97.8-100)
	Asym	2377	154	13	2205	5	6.7	96.9 <sup>5</sup> (92.9-98.6)	99.4 <sup>5</sup> (99.0-99.7)	92.2 (87.6-95.6)	99.8 (99.5-99.9)
TS	Sym	303	39	2	262	0	12.9	100 <sup>6</sup> (91.0-100)	99.2 <sup>6</sup> (97.3-99.8)	95.1 (84.5-99.4)	100 (98.7-100)
	Asym	2276	156	23	2089	8	7.2	95.1 <sup>7</sup> (90.7-97.5)	98.9 <sup>7</sup> (98.4-99.3)	87.2 (82.1-91.4)	99.6 (99.3-99.8)

CI = confidence interval, FN = false negative, FP = false positive, NPV = negative predictive value, PPV = positive predictive value, Prev = prevalence, RS = rectal swab, Sym = symptomatic, TN = true negative, TP = true positive, TS = throat swab.

<sup>1</sup> Rectal swab and throat swab sample results are from Clinical Study 4.

<sup>2</sup> Score CI.

<sup>3</sup> PPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI for the positive likelihood ratio, NPV 95% CI computed from the exact 95% CI from the negative likelihood ratio.

<sup>4</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.5% (1/193). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 97.4% (38/39), 95% CI: 86.8% - 99.5% and specificity = 100% (154/154), 95% CI: 97.6% - 100%.

<sup>5</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.2% (4/2381). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 96.3% (154/160), 95% CI: 92.1% - 98.3% and specificity = 99.3% (2205/2221), 95% CI: 98.8% - 99.6%.

<sup>6</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.7% (2/305). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 100% (39/39), 95% CI: 91.0% - 100% and specificity = 98.5% (262/266), 95% CI: 96.2% - 99.4%.

<sup>7</sup> Equivocal results excluded; the percent of equivocal results is 0.04% (1/2277). If all equivocal results are considered discordant results (e.g., false positive or false negative), sensitivity = 95.1% (156/164), 95% CI: 90.7% - 97.5% and specificity = 98.9% (2089/2113), 95% CI: 98.3% - 99.2%.

### ***Chlamydia trachomatis* Infected Status Tables**

The frequency of test outcomes from reference NAAT and investigational Panther system testing is summarized in Tables 18 through 23 for CT.

*Table 18: Clinical Study 1. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Female Vaginal Swab, PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap, and Endocervical Swab Samples*

CT Infected Status	Assay Results							Symptom Status	
	AC2 Tigris		ACT Tigris		AC2 Panther			Sym	Asym
	PCyt	FU	PCyt	FU	CVS/PVS	PCyt	FS		
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	62	26
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	0	1
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	+	NA	3	0
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	0	2
Infected	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	+	+	+	NA	+	+	1	1
Infected	+	+	+	+	NA	+	NA	2	1
Infected	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	4	1
Infected	+	-	+	+	NA	+	NA	0	1
Infected	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	4	0
Infected	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	0	1
Infected	+	-	+	-	NA	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	NA	+	NA	+	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	NA	+	NA	-	+	-	0	1
Infected <sup>1</sup>	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	1	0
Infected <sup>1</sup>	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	2	0
Infected <sup>1</sup>	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	1	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2
Not Infected	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	5	0
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	+	-	NA	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	1	3
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	2	7
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	+	-	NA	2	0
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	2	2
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	680	396
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	29	8
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	-	NA	-	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	NA	-	-	17	4
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	NA	-	NA	8	1
Not Infected	-	NA	-	-	-	-	-	8	6
Not Infected	-	NA	-	-	-	-	NA	0	1
Not Infected	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
Not Infected	NA	-	-	-	-	-	NA	1	0
Not Infected	NA	-	-	-	NA	-	+	1	0

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, ACT = Aptima CT assay, Asym = asymptomatic, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FS = female endocervical swab, FU = female urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, Sym = symptomatic, Tigris = Tigris DTS system.

<sup>1</sup> For the evaluation of the non-urine specimen types, the specimens were considered non-infected.

Table 19: Clinical Study 1. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Male Urethral Swab Samples

CT Infected Status	Assay Results					Symptom Status	
	AC2 DTS		ACT Tigris		AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	MS	MU	MS	MU	MS		
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	50	37
Infected	+	+	+	+	NA	4	1
Infected	+	+	+	-	+	2	0
Infected	+	-	+	+	+	4	2
Infected	+	-	+	-	+	3	2
Not Infected	+	+	-	-	-	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	-	1	1
Not Infected	-	-	+	-	-	3	2
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	-	1	1
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	+	1	2
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	-	173	262
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	NA	10	9
Not Infected	NA	-	-	-	NA	1	2

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, ACT = Aptima CT assay, Asym = asymptomatic, DTS = DTS systems, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, Sym = symptomatic, Tigris = Tigris DTS system.

Table 20: Clinical Study 1 and Clinical Study 2. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Male Urine Samples

CT Infected Status	Assay Results						Symptom Status		
	AC2 <sup>1</sup>		ACT Tigris		NAAT 1 <sup>3</sup>	NAAT 2 <sup>3</sup>	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	MS	MU	MS	MU	MU	MU	MU		
Clinical Study 1									
Infected	+	+	+	+			+		38
Infected	+	-	+	+			+		2
Infected	+	-	+	-			-		2
Clinical Study 2									
Infected	+	+			+	+	+	73	66
Infected	+	+			+	+	-	2	1
Infected	+	+			+	-	+	0	1
Infected	+	+			+	NA	+	0	1
Infected	+	+			-	+	+	3	0
Infected	+	+			-	+	-	0	1
Infected	+	-			+	+	+	4	0
Infected	+	-			+	+	-	3	0
Infected	+	=			-	+	-	0	1
Infected	-	+			+	+	+	5	4
Clinical Study 1									
Not Infected	+	+	-	-			-		1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-			-		2
Not Infected	-	-	+	-			-		2
Not Infected	-	-	-	+			+		1

*Table 20: Clinical Study 1 and Clinical Study 2. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Male Urine Samples (Continued)*

CT Infected Status	Assay Results						Symptom Status		
	AC2 <sup>1</sup>		ACT Tigris		NAAT 1 <sup>3</sup>	NAAT 2 <sup>3</sup>	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	MS	MU	MS	MU	MU	MU	MU		
Not Infected	-	-	-	-			-		273
Not Infected	NA	-	-	-			-		2
Clinical Study 2									
Not Infected	+	-			-	-	-	1	6
Not Infected	-	+			-	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	-			+	-	+	1	0
Not Infected	-	-			+	-	-	0	2
Not Infected	-	-			-	-	-	388	874
Not Infected	-	-			-	=	-	0	1
Not Infected	-	-			-	NA	-	10	18
Not Infected	-	-			NA	-	-	1	2
Not Infected	-	NA			-	-	-	2	0
Not Infected	NA	-			-	-	-	4	0

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, ACT = Aptima CT assay, Asym = asymptomatic, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, Sym = symptomatic, Tigris = Tigris DTS system.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result.

<sup>1</sup> Male urethral swab and male urine samples were tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the DTS systems in Clinical Study 1 and on the Tigris DTS system in Clinical Study 2.

<sup>2</sup> Male urethral swab and male urine samples were tested with the Aptima CT assay on the Tigris DTS system in Clinical Study 1.

<sup>3</sup> Male urine samples were tested with two FDA-cleared CT NAATs in Clinical Study 2.

Note. Data from asymptomatic men in Clinical Study 1 are combined with data from Clinical Study 2.

*Table 21: Clinical Study 3. CT Composite Comparator Status for Performance Evaluation in Female Urine Samples*

Composite Comparator Status	Assay Results				Symptom Status	
	NAAT 1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	FU	FU	FU	FU		
Positive	+	+	NR	+	101	61
Positive	+	+	NR	-	1	0
Positive	+	+	NR	=	0	1
Positive	+	-	+	+	4	4
Positive	-	+	+	+	3	0
Positive	=	+	+	+	1	0
Negative	-	+	-	+	1	0
Negative	-	+	-	-	3	1
Negative	-	-	NR	+	1	3
Negative	-	-	NR	-	1261	1119
Negative	-	NA	-	-	1	1
Negative	NA	-	-	-	2	3

Asym = asymptomatic, FU = female urine, NA = result not available, NR = not required, AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents final equivocal result.

Table 22: Clinical Study 4. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Rectal Swab Samples

Rectal Infected Status	Assay Results				Rectal Symptom Status	
	NAAT1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
Infected	+	+	+	+	0	3
Infected	+	+	+	-	0	6
Infected	+	+	+	=	0	3
Infected	+	+	-	=	0	1
Infected	+	+	N/A	+	21	148
Infected	+	-	+	+	1	13
Infected	+	-	+	-	0	7
Infected	+	NR	+	+	0	2
Infected	-	+	+	+	1	7
Infected	-	+	+	-	1	4
Infected	-	+	+	=	0	1
Infected	NR	+	+	+	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	+	0	2
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	1	4
Not Infected	-	+	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	+	-	-	1	10
Not Infected	-	-	+	+	2	9
Not Infected	-	-	+	=	0	2
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	0	10
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	0	2
Not Infected	-	-	-	=	0	2
Not Infected	-	-	N/A	-	158	2062
Not Infected	-	NR	-	-	0	47
Not Infected	NR	-	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	NR	-	-	-	4	33
Not Infected	NR	-	-	=	1	0

AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Asym = asymptomatic, N/A = not applicable, NR = result not available, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result.



Table 23: Clinical Study 4. CT Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Throat Swab Samples

Throat Infected Status	Assay Results				Throat Symptom Status	
	NAAT1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
Infected	+	+	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	+	+	-	0	2
Infected	+	+	-	-	0	1
Infected	+	+	=	-	0	1
Infected	+	+	N/A	+	8	31
Infected	+	-	+	+	1	4
Infected	+	-	+	-	0	1
Infected	+	NR	+	-	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	0	3
Not Infected	-	+	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	+	-	-	0	2
Not Infected	-	-	+	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	1	4
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	1	6
Not Infected	-	-	N/A	-	295	2202
Not Infected	-	=	-	-	0	1
Not Infected	-	NR	-	-	0	6
Not Infected	NR	-	-	-	0	10

AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Asym = asymptomatic, N/A = not applicable, NR = result not available, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result.

**Neisseria gonorrhoeae Infected Status Tables**

The frequency of test outcomes from reference NAAT and investigational Panther system testing is summarized in Tables 24 through 29 for GC.

**Table 24: Clinical Study 1. GC Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Female Vaginal Swab, PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap, and Endocervical Swab Samples**

GC Infected Status	Assay Results							Symptom Status	
	AC2 Tigris		AGC Tigris		AC2 Panther			Sym	Asym
	PCyt	FU	PCyt	FU	CVS/PVS	PCyt	FS		
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	22	10
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	+	NA	1	0
Infected	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	1	0
Infected	+	+	+	=	+	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	3	3
Infected	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	0	1
Infected	+	NA	+	NA	+	+	+	0	1
Not Infected	+	NA	-	-	-	=	-	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	+	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	+	-	-	3	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	+	-	NA	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	+	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	-	736	429
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	=	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	-	NA	32	9
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	NA	-	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	NA	-	-	18	6
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	10	3

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, AGC = Aptima GC assay, Asym = asymptomatic, CVS = clinician-collected vaginal swab, FS = female endocervical swab, FU = female urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, PVS = patient-collected vaginal swab, Sym = symptomatic, Tigris = Tigris DTS system.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result on repeat testing.

**Table 25: Clinical Study 1. GC Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Male Urethral Swab Samples**

GC Infected Status	Assay Results					Symptom Status	
	AC2 DTS		AGC DTS		AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	MS	MU	MS	MU	MS		
Infected	+	+	+	+	+	30	2
Infected	+	+	+	+	NA	0	1
Infected	+	-	+	-	+	1	1
Infected	NA	+	NA	+	NA	1	0
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	-	205	307
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA	NA	14	9

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, AGC = Aptima GC assay, Asym = asymptomatic, DTS = DTS systems, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, Sym = symptomatic.

Table 26: Clinical Study 1 and Clinical Study 2. GC Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Male Urine Samples

GC Infected Status	Assay Results						Symptom Status		
	AC2 <sup>1</sup>		AGC DTS <sup>2</sup>		NAAT 1 <sup>3</sup>	NAAT 2 <sup>3</sup>	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	MS	MU	MS	MU	MU	MU	MU		
Clinical Study 1									
Infected	+	+	+	+			+		3
Infected	+	-	+	-			-		1
Clinical Study 2									
Infected	+	+			+	+	+	63	4
Infected	+	+			+	NA	+	1	1
Infected	-	+			+	-	+	0	1
Infected	NA	+			+	+	+	2	0
Clinical Study 1									
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA			+		2
Not Infected	-	-	NA	NA			-		314
Clinical Study 2									
Not Infected	+	-			-	-	-	2	4
Not Infected	-	+			-	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	-			+	-	-	6	2
Not Infected	-	-			-	+	-	1	0
Not Infected	-	-			-	-	+	1	1
Not Infected	-	-			-	-	-	407	945
Not Infected	-	-			-	NA	-	9	19
Not Infected	-	-			NA	-	-	1	2
Not Infected	-	NA			-	-	-	2	0
Not Infected	NA	-			-	-	-	2	0

AC2 = Aptima Combo 2 assay, AGC = Aptima GC assay, Asym = asymptomatic, DTS = DTS systems, MS = male urethral swab, MU = male urine, NA = result not available, Panther = Panther system, Sym = symptomatic.

<sup>1</sup> Male urethral swab and male urine samples were tested with the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the DTS systems in Clinical Study 1 and on the Tigris DTS system in Clinical Study 2.

<sup>2</sup> Male urethral swab and male urine samples were tested with the Aptima GC assay on the DTS systems in Clinical Study 1.

<sup>3</sup> Male urine samples were tested with two FDA-cleared GC NAATs in Clinical Study 2.

Note. Data from asymptomatic men in Clinical Study 1 are combined with data from Clinical Study 2.

Table 27: Clinical Study 3. GC Composite Comparator Status for Performance Evaluation in Female Urine Samples

Composite Comparator Status	Assay Results				Symptom Status	
	NAAT 1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
	FU	FU	FU	FU		
Positive	+	+	NR	+	19	9
Positive	=	+	+	=	1	0
Negative	-	-	NR	-	1360	1183
Negative	-	NA	-	-	1	1
Negative	NA	-	-	-	2	3

Asym = asymptomatic, FU = female urine, NA = result not available, NR = not required, AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents final equivocal result.

Table 28: Clinical Study 4. GC Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Rectal Swab Samples

Rectal Infected Status	Assay Results				Rectal Symptom Status	
	NAAT1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
Infected	+	+	+	+	1	0
Infected	+	+	+	-	0	1
Infected	+	+	+	=	1	0
Infected	+	+	-	-	0	2
Infected	+	+	-	=	0	1
Infected	+	+	N/A	+	34	137
Infected	+	-	+	+	2	11
Infected	+	-	+	-	0	2
Infected	-	+	+	+	1	5
Infected	NR	+	+	+	0	1
Not Infected	+	-	-	-	0	4
Not Infected	-	+	-	+	0	1
Not Infected	-	+	-	-	0	5
Not Infected	-	-	+	+	0	8
Not Infected	-	-	+	=	0	1
Not Infected	-	-	-	+	0	4
Not Infected	-	-	-	-	0	5
Not Infected	-	-	-	=	0	2
Not Infected	-	-	N/A	-	148	2109
Not Infected	-	NR	-	-	1	48
Not Infected	NR	-	-	-	5	34

AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Asym = asymptomatic, N/A = not applicable, NR = result not available, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result.

Table 29: Clinical Study 4. GC Infected Status for Performance Evaluation in Throat Swab Samples

Throat Infected Status	Assay Results				Throat Symptom Status	
	NAAT1	NAAT 2	NAAT 3	AC2 Panther	Sym	Asym
Infected	+	+	+	+	1	3
Infected	+	+	+	-	0	2
Infected	+	+	-	-	0	4
Infected	+	+	N/A	+	36	135
Infected	+	-	+	+	2	14
Infected	+	-	+	-	0	2
Infected	+	NR	+	+	0	2
Infected	-	+	+	+	0	2
Not infected	+	-	-	+	0	4
Not infected	+	-	-	-	1	15
Not infected	+	-	-	=	1	0
Not infected	-	+	-	+	0	2
Not infected	-	+	-	-	0	4
Not infected	-	+	-	=	1	0
Not infected	-	-	+	+	2	3
Not infected	-	-	+	=	0	1
Not infected	-	-	-	+	0	14
Not infected	-	-	-	-	1	7
Not infected	-	-	N/A	-	260	2049
Not infected	-	NR	-	-	0	5
Not infected	NR	-	-	-	0	9

AC2 Panther = Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system, Asym = asymptomatic, N/A = not applicable, NR = result not available, Sym = symptomatic.

The equal symbol (=) represents an equivocal result.

## RLU Distribution of Aptima Combo 2 Controls

The distribution of the RLU values for the Aptima Combo 2 controls is presented in Table 30 from all valid Panther system runs performed during Clinical Study 1, Clinical Study 2, Clinical Study 3, and Clinical Study 4.

Table 30: RLU Distribution of Aptima Combo 2 Controls

Control	Statistic	Total RLU (x1000)			
		Clinical Study 1	Clinical Study 2	Clinical Study 3	Clinical Study 4
Positive Control, CT/ Negative Control, GC	N	66	23	41	96
	Maximum	1335	1258	1577	1464
	Median	1081.5	1135.0	1091.0	1164.0
	Minimum	624	910	771	824
	CV%	11.2	7.5	13.5	8.4
Positive Control, GC/ Negative Control, CT	N	66	23	41	96
	Maximum	1241	1311	1308	1137
	Median	1172.0	1174.0	1060.0	983.5
	Minimum	1063	1082	905	817
	CV%	3.2	4.9	8.9	8.4

## Reproducibility Studies

Reproducibility of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system was evaluated in two different studies using panel members created with Specimen Transport Medium (STM) in Reproducibility Study 1 and using panel members created with clinical urine specimens in Reproducibility Study 2.

### Reproducibility Study 1

Aptima Combo 2 assay reproducibility was evaluated with panel members created using STM at three external US laboratories using the Panther system. Testing was performed using one lot of assay reagents and a total of six operators (two at each site). Testing was performed over at least 10 days at each site. The negative panel member consisted of STM and positive panel members were created by spiking STM with lysate from CT and/or GC organisms to result in panel members with expected targeted concentrations. Table 31 shows the CT and GC concentrations for each panel member and the mean, standard deviation (SD), and coefficient of variation (CV) of the RLU data for each panel member between-sites, between-operators, between-days, between-runs, within-runs, and overall. Percent agreement with expected results is also shown. Only samples with valid results were included in the analyses.

Table 31: Reproducibility Study 1 Data

Target Concentration		Agreed/N	Agrmt (%)	Mean RLU (x1000)	Between-Sites		Between-Operators		Between-Days		Between-Runs		Within-Runs		Total	
CT (IFU/mL)	GC (CFU/mL)				SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)
0	0	180/180	100	6	1.0	17.5	0.5	8.1	0.2	3.7	0.5	8.2	1.5	24.4	1.9	32.4
0.25	0	180/180	100	1207	45.0	3.7	17.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	35.1	2.9	66.9	5.5	89.7	7.4
2.5	0	180/180	100	1272	41.3	3.2	19.2	1.5	0.0	0.0	31.0	2.4	36.8	2.9	66.3	5.2
25	0	180/180	100	1292	43.7	3.4	14.9	1.2	7.7	0.6	35.1	2.7	36.3	2.8	68.8	5.3
1000	0	180/180	100	1294	48.1	3.7	14.3	1.1	26.8	2.1	29.6	2.3	34.8	2.7	73.0	5.6
0	0.25	180/180	100	589	92.2	15.7	19.9	3.4	28.1	4.8	21.2	3.6	44.8	7.6	110.2	18.7
0	12.5	179/179	100	1251	163.5	13.1	0.0	0.0	15.1	1.2	31.5	2.5	29.8	2.4	169.8	13.6
0	125	180/180	100	1295	168.3	13.0	6.7	0.5	33.4	2.6	21.1	1.6	33.3	2.6	176.2	13.6
0	1250	180/180	100	1309	166.5	12.7	0.0	0.0	28.4	2.2	27.6	2.1	31.2	2.4	173.9	13.3
0	2500	179/179	100	1305	170.9	13.1	11.4	0.9	30.4	2.3	15.2	1.2	32.2	2.5	177.5	13.6
2.5	125	178/178	100	2513	123.9	4.9	24.6	1.0	24.0	1.0	57.5	2.3	52.4	2.1	150.3	6.0
2.5	2500	180/180	100	2515	123.5	4.9	6.5	0.3	33.8	1.3	39.3	1.6	59.4	2.4	146.6	5.8
1000	125	179/179	100	2524	117.4	4.6	35.2	1.4	52.1	2.1	28.9	1.1	54.7	2.2	146.8	5.8
1000	2500	180/180	100	2525	118.2	4.7	21.6	0.9	38.7	1.5	54.8	2.2	48.5	1.9	145.9	5.8

Agrmt = agreement, CFU = colony-forming unit, CV = coefficient of variation, IFU = inclusion-forming unit, RLU = relative light unit, SD = standard deviation.

Note. Variability from some factors may be numerically negative, which can occur if the variability due to those factors is very small. When this occurs, the variability as measured with standard deviation and %CV is set to 0.

## Reproducibility Study 2

Aptima Combo 2 assay reproducibility was evaluated with panel members created using clinical urine specimens at two external US laboratories and in-house using the Panther system. Testing was performed using one lot of assay reagents and a total of six operators (two at each site). Testing was performed over at least 10 days at each site. The negative panel member consisted of negative urine and the positive panel members were created by spiking negative urine with lysate from CT and/or GC organisms to result in panel members with expected targeted concentrations. Table 32 shows the CT and GC concentrations for each panel member and the mean, SD, and CV of the RLU data for each panel member between-sites, between-operators, between-days, between-runs, within-runs, and overall. Percent agreement with expected results is also shown. Only samples with valid results were included in the analyses.

Table 32: Reproducibility Study 2 Data

Target Concentration		Agreed/N	Agrmt (%)	Mean RLU (x1000)	Between-Sites		Between-Operators		Between-Days		Between-Runs		Within-Runs		Total	
CT (IFU/mL)	GC (CFU/mL)				SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)	SD (x1000)	CV (%)
0	0	178/180	98.9	6	1.2	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	131.7	8.3	133.0
0.25	0	180/180	100	1202	92.4	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	62.9	5.2	50.3	4.2	122.6	10.2
2.5	0	178/178	100	1185	90.9	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.8	4.5	34.6	2.9	111.1	9.4
25	0	180/180	100	1265	97.4	7.7	18.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	62.4	4.9	35.1	2.8	122.4	9.7
1000	0	180/180	100	1278	101.9	8.0	15.7	1.2	20.6	1.6	61.4	4.8	31.8	2.5	125.9	9.8
0	0.25	177/179	98.9	422	40.3	9.5	21.9	5.2	27.6	6.5	35.3	8.4	72.7	17.2	96.9	23.0
0	12.5	179/180	99.4	1142	11.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	44.4	3.9	37.3	3.3	75.8	6.6	96.2	8.4
0	125	180/180	100	1224	31.4	2.6	13.0	1.1	11.1	0.9	19.8	1.6	34.3	2.8	53.4	4.4
0	1250	180/180	100	1263	16.7	1.3	9.4	0.7	21.0	1.7	14.0	1.1	30.6	2.4	44.1	3.5
0	2500	180/180	100	1309	20.7	1.6	13.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	21.7	1.7	25.3	1.9	41.4	3.2
2.5	125	180/180	100	2468	71.9	2.9	31.5	1.3	21.7	0.9	64.8	2.6	44.4	1.8	113.1	4.6
2.5	2500	180/180	100	2453	76.2	3.1	30.9	1.3	0.0	0.0	62.5	2.5	51.6	2.1	115.4	4.7
1000	125	179/179	100	2504	74.0	3.0	38.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	59.1	2.4	39.1	1.6	109.4	4.4
1000	2500	180/180	100	2357	79.1	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	74.2	3.1	55.2	2.3	121.7	5.2

Agrmt = agreement, CFU = colony-forming unit, CV = coefficient of variation, IFU = inclusion-forming unit, RLU = relative light unit, SD = standard deviation.

Note. Variability from some factors may be numerically negative, which can occur if the variability due to those factors is very small. When this occurs, the variability as measured with standard deviation and %CV is set to 0.

### Clinical Panel Agreement Study

The clinical panel agreement study evaluated the equivalence between the original and updated versions of the Aptima Combo 2 assay using 20 prepared CT/GC clinical panels containing 0 to 2,500 IFU/mL of wild type CT, 0 to 500 IFU/mL of Finnish variant of *Chlamydia trachomatis* (FI-nvCT), and 0 to 125,000 CFU/mL of GC in urine specimens. Each of the 20 panels were tested in triplicate in two runs per day on three Panther systems by two operators using three lots of reagents over six days. Table 33 shows the percent agreements with expected CT and GC results for the two versions of the Aptima Combo 2 assay.



Table 33: Original and Updated Version Aptima Combo 2 CT/GC Clinical Panel Agreement Study

Panel Member Concentration			CT				GC			
CT IFU/mL	FI-nvCT IFU/mL*	GC CFU/mL	Original AC2 Expected Result	Original AC2% Agreement	Updated AC2 Expected Result	Updated AC2% Agreement	Original AC2 Expected Result	Original AC2% Agreement	Updated AC2 Expected Result	Updated AC2% Agreement
0	0	0	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
0	0	12.5	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0	0	125	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0	0	1,250	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0	0	125,000	Neg	100%	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0.25	0	0	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
2.5	0	0	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
25	0	0	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
2,500	0	0	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
0	0.02	0	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
0	0.05	0	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
0	0.2	0	Neg	98.2%	Pos	100%	Neg	99.1%	Neg	100%
0	500	0	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Neg	100%	Neg	100%
2.5	0	125	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
25	0	1,250	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
2,500	0	125	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
2.5	0	125,000	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0	500	125	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
0	0.05	125,000	Neg	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%
2,500	500	125	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%	Pos	100%

\*The IFU equivalents were calculated based on the genome size and estimated DNA:RNA ratio/cell of each organism.

## Panther System Analytical Performance

### Analytical Sensitivity Study

#### Urogenital Specimens

*Chlamydia trachomatis* analytical sensitivity (limit of detection) was determined by testing dilutions of CT organisms in the Aptima Combo 2 assay. The analytical sensitivity claim for the assay is 1 IFU/assay (7.25 IFU/swab, 9.75 IFU/mL PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, 5.0 IFU/mL urine). However, dilutions of less than 1 IFU/assay tested positive in the Aptima Combo 2 assay for the following 12 serovars: D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L1, L2, L2a, and L3 (≥95% positivity was observed in samples containing CT concentrations of 1.89 IFU/mL).

The analytical sensitivity for FI-nvCT was determined by testing dilutions of *in vitro* transcript in negative urine specimens, negative ThinPrep specimens, and simulated swab matrix specimens. Thirty replicates of each dilution were tested on the Panther system with each of three reagent lots of the updated Aptima Combo 2 assay for a total of 90 replicates per specimen type. The analytical sensitivity was determined to be less than one IFU per assay in urine, ThinPrep, and simulated swab matrix specimens. The detection capabilities of the updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay were confirmed across multiple CT variants.

*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* analytical sensitivity (limit of detection) was determined by testing dilutions of GC organisms in the Aptima Combo 2 assay. The analytical sensitivity claim for the assay is 50 cells/assay (362 cells/swab, 488 cells/mL PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, 250 cells/mL urine). However, dilutions of less than 50 cells/assay tested positive in the Aptima Combo 2 assay for 30 different strains of GC (≥95% positivity was observed in samples containing GC concentrations of 0.36 cells/mL).

#### Extragenital Specimens

The 95% limit of detection for the extragenital swabs with the Aptima Combo 2 assay was determined for throat and rectal swabs. Two CT Serovars (E and G) and two clinical GC isolates were spiked into pools of these swabs. The panels were tested on two Panther systems using one reagent lot in replicates of at least 20 over eight days.

The 95% limit of detection for throat and rectal swabs was 0.007 IFU/mL for CT. The 95% limit of detection for throat and rectal swabs was 0.10 CFU/mL for GC.

### Analytical Specificity Study

A total of 198 organisms were evaluated using the Aptima Combo 2 assay in two studies. An initial study included 154 culture isolates which contained 86 organisms that may be isolated from the urogenital tract and 68 additional organisms that represent a phylogenetic cross-section of organisms. An additional study for extragenital samples, included 44 microbes that may be found with extragenital specimens. The tested organisms included bacteria, fungi, yeast, parasites, and viruses.

The analytical specificity of the updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay was evaluated using a subset of microorganisms listed in Table 34 and Table 35. The 86 microorganisms tested consisted primarily of viral, bacterial, and yeast strains. None of the microorganisms tested were found to have an impact on the performance or analytical specificity of the updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay.

## Urogenital Specimens

This analytical specificity study was conducted on DTS systems. A total of 154 culture isolates were evaluated using the Aptima Combo 2 assay. These isolates included 86 organisms that may be isolated from the urogenital tract and 68 additional organisms that represent a phylogenetic cross-section of organisms. The tested organisms included bacteria, fungi, yeast, parasites, and viruses. All organisms except *C. psittaci*, *C. pneumoniae*, and the viruses were tested at  $1.0 \times 10^6$  cells/assay in STM. The Chlamydia and Neisseria organisms were tested in PreservCyt Solution medium. *C. psittaci* and *C. pneumoniae* were tested at  $1.0 \times 10^5$  IFU/assay. The viruses were tested as follows: (a) herpes simplex viruses I and II:  $2.5 \times 10^4$  TCID<sub>50</sub>/assay, (b) human papilloma virus 16:  $2.9 \times 10^6$  DNA copies/assay, and (c) cytomegalovirus:  $4.8 \times 10^5$  infected cell culture cells/assay. Only CT and GC samples produced positive results in the Aptima Combo 2 assay. The list of organisms tested is shown in Table 34.

Table 34: Analytical Specificity

Organism	Organism	Organism
<i>Achromobacter xerosis</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Neisseria mucosa</i> (3)
<i>Acinetobacter calcoaceticus</i>	<i>Flavobacterium meningosepticum</i>	<i>Neisseria sicca</i> (3)
<i>Acinetobacter lwoffii</i>	<i>Fusobacterium nucleatum</i>	<i>Neisseria subflava</i> (14)
<i>Actinomyces israelii</i>	<i>Gardnerella vaginalis</i>	<i>Neisseria perflava</i>
<i>Actinomyces pyogenes</i>	<i>Gemella haemolysans</i>	<i>Neisseria polysaccharea</i>
<i>Aerococcus viridans</i>	<i>Haemophilus ducreyi</i>	<i>Paracoccus denitrificans</i>
<i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i>	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobius</i>
<i>Agrobacterium radiobacter</i>	Herpes simplex virus I	<i>Peptostreptococcus productus</i>
<i>Alcaligenes faecalis</i>	Herpes simplex virus II	<i>Plesiomonas shigelloides</i>
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Human papilloma virus 16	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>
<i>Bacteriodes fragilis</i>	<i>Kingella dentrificans</i>	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>
<i>Bacteriodes ureolyticus</i>	<i>Kingella kingae</i>	<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>
<i>Bifidobacterium adolescentis</i>	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	<i>Providencia stuartii</i>
<i>Bifidobacterium brevi</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
<i>Branhamella catarrhalis</i>	<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i>	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>
<i>Brevibacterium linens</i>	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i>	<i>Pseudomonas putida</i>
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	<i>Lactobacillus jensonii</i>	<i>Rahnella aquatilis</i>
<i>Candida albicans</i>	<i>Lactobacillus lactis</i>	<i>Rhodospirillum rubrum</i>
<i>Candida glabrata</i>	<i>Legionella pneumophila</i> (2)	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	<i>Leuconostoc paramensenteroides</i>	<i>Salmonella minnesota</i>
<i>Candida tropicalis</i>	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>
<i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i>	<i>Micrococcus luteus</i>	<i>Serratia marcescens</i>
<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i> (2)	<i>Moraxella lacunata</i>	<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>
<i>Chromobacterium violaceum</i>	<i>Moraxella osloensis</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
<i>Citrobacter freundii</i>	<i>Morganella morganii</i>	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	<i>Mycobacterium smegmatis</i>	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>
<i>Corynebacterium genitalium</i>	<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i>	<i>Streptococcus bovis</i>
<i>Corynebacterium xerosis</i>	<i>Mycoplasma hominis</i>	<i>Streptococcus mitis</i>
<i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup A	<i>Streptococcus mutans</i>
Cytomegalovirus	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup B	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>
<i>Deinococcus radiodurans</i>	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup C (4)	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>

“(n)” represents the number of strains tested.

All organisms tested produced a negative result in the Aptima Combo 2 assay based on kinetic profile type and RLU.

Table 34: Analytical Specificity (Continued)

Organism	Organism	Organism
<i>Derxia gummosa</i>	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup D	<i>Streptococcus salivarius</i>
<i>Eikenella corrodens</i>	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup Y	<i>Streptococcus sanguis</i>
<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i>	<i>N. meningitidis</i> Serogroup W135	<i>Streptomyces griseinus</i>
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	<i>Neisseria cinerea</i> (4)	<i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i>
<i>Enterococcus avium</i>	<i>Neisseria dentrificans</i>	<i>Ureaplasma urealyticum</i>
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	<i>Neisseria elongata</i> (3)	<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	<i>Neisseria flava</i>	<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>
<i>Erwinia herbicola</i>	<i>Neisseria flavescens</i> (2)	
<i>Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae</i>	<i>Neisseria lactamica</i> (9)	

“(n)” represents the number of strains tested.

All organisms tested produced a negative result in the Aptima Combo 2 assay based on kinetic profile type and RLU.

### Extragenital Specimens

A total of 44 microbes that may be found with extragenital specimens were evaluated using the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system. The tested organisms included bacteria, parasites, and viruses. Only CT and GC samples produced positive results in the Aptima Combo 2 assay. The list of organisms tested is shown in Table 35.

Table 35: Cross-Reactivity Microorganisms for Throat and Rectal Specimens

Organism	Organism	Organism
Adenovirus	<i>Eggerthella lenta</i>	Metapneumo virus
<i>Anaerococcus spp.</i>	<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	<i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i>
<i>Arcanobacterium haemolyticum</i>	Enterovirus	<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>
<i>Bacteroides oralis</i>	Epstein-Barr Virus	Norovirus
<i>Bordetella parapertussis</i>	<i>Fusobacterium necrophorum</i>	<i>Peptostreptococcus micros</i>
<i>Bordetella pertussis</i>	<i>Giardia lamblia</i>	<i>Prevotella spp.</i>
<i>Burkholderia cepacia</i>	<i>Haemophilus parahaemolyticus</i>	Respiratory syncytial virus
<i>Campylobacter rectus</i>	<i>Haemophilus parainfluenzae</i>	Rhinovirus
<i>Citrobacter koseri</i>	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i>
<i>Clostridioides difficile</i>	Hepatitis B Virus	<i>Shigella flexneri</i>
Coronavirus	Hepatitis C Virus	<i>Shigella sonnei</i>
<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i>	Human influenza virus A	<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>
<i>Corynebacterium pseudodiphtheriticum</i>	Human influenza virus B	<i>Streptococcus anginosus group</i>
Coxsackie Virus	<i>Legionella jordanis</i>	<i>Veillonella parvula</i>
Echovirus	<i>Legionella micdadei</i>	

### Interfering Substances

#### Urogenital Specimens

Aptima Combo 2 assay performance in the presence of potentially interfering substances was tested on DTS systems, including the following interfering substances individually spiked into swab and PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens: 10% blood, contraceptive jelly, spermicide, moisturizer, hemorrhoidal anesthetic, body oil, powder, anti-fungal cream, vaginal lubricants, feminine spray, and leukocytes ( $1.0 \times 10^6$  cells/mL). All were tested for potential assay interference in the absence and presence of CT and GC at the estimated rRNA equivalent of 1.0 CT IFU/assay (5 fg/assay) and 50 GC cells/assay (250 fg/assay). The rRNA equivalents were calculated based on the genome size and estimated DNA:RNA ratio/cell of each organism.

Blood interference was also evaluated on the Panther system and the results of this testing indicated that blood does not interfere with Aptima Combo 2 assay performance.

### Extragenital Specimens

The following interfering substances were individually spiked into STM and tested on the Panther system: cold sore medication, lip balm, hemorrhoidal cream, human feces, cough suppressant, toothpaste, mouthwash, laxative suppository, anti-diarrheal medication, and antacid. All were tested for potential assay interference in the absence and presence of CT and GC slightly above the limit of detection.

No interference was observed with any of the tested substances in the above mentioned two studies. No inhibitors of amplification were observed in the Aptima Combo 2 assay.

### Within Laboratory Precision Study

Aptima Combo 2 assay precision was evaluated at Hologic using the Panther system. Testing was performed using three Panther systems and three lots of assay reagents. Testing was performed over 24 days.

Reproducibility panel members were created using negative PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap specimens and STM. The positive panel members were created by spiking CT and/or GC organisms to the targeted concentrations shown in Table 36.

For each panel member, Table 36 presents mean RLU, between-instrument, between-lot, between-run, within-run, and overall variation as SD and percent CV. Percent agreement with expected results is also shown.

Table 36: Within Laboratory Precision Data

Matrix	Target Concentration		Agreed/N	Agrmt (%)	Mean RLU (x1000)	Between-Instruments		Between-Lots		Between-Runs		Within-Runs		Total	
	CT	GC				SD	CV	SD	CV	SD	CV	SD	CV	SD	CV
	(IFU/mL)	(CFU/mL)				(x1000)	(%)	(x1000)	(%)	(x1000)	(%)	(x1000)	(%)	(x1000)	(%)
STM	0	0	96/96	100	6	0.1	1.0	0.9	13.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	15.7	1.3	20.1
	0.25	0	95/95	100	1226	70.0	5.7	20.0	1.6	8.4	0.7	47.1	3.8	87.1	7.1
	2.5	0	96/96	100	1249	78.0	6.2	6.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	32.9	2.6	84.8	6.8
	25	0	95/95	100	1268	72.9	5.7	15.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	39.6	3.1	84.3	6.6
	0	12.5	96/96	100	1081	18.4	1.7	28.6	2.6	0.0	0.0	26.7	2.5	43.2	4.0
	0	125	96/96	100	1266	29.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.7	27.6	2.2	41.6	3.3
	0	1250	96/96	100	1309	29.4	2.2	0.0	0.0	9.8	0.8	31.8	2.4	44.4	3.4
	2.5	125	96/96	100	2456	86.6	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.0	2.2	101.5	4.1
	2.5	2500	96/96	100	2509	73.1	2.9	0.0	0.0	19.8	0.8	46.8	1.9	89.0	3.5
	1000	2500	96/96	100	2496	31.7	1.3	6.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	193.7	7.8	196.3	7.9
1000	125	96/96	100	2471	83.6	3.4	9.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	52.4	2.1	99.1	4.0	
PCyt	0	0	96/96	100	7	0.0	0.0	0.8	11.7	0.0	0.0	1.5	22.4	1.7	24.7
	0.25	0	96/96	100	1113	92.3	8.3	30.1	2.7	0.0	0.0	63.6	5.7	116.0	10.4
	2.5	0	96/96	100	1194	62.5	5.2	24.8	2.1	0.0	0.0	47.0	3.9	82.1	6.9
	25	0	95/95	100	1222	65.1	5.3	26.4	2.2	14.7	1.2	35.0	2.9	79.8	6.5
	0	12.5	93/93	100	994	33.3	3.3	36.9	3.7	16.0	1.6	26.2	2.6	58.4	5.9
	0	125	95/95	100	1189	40.1	3.4	4.5	0.4	10.9	0.9	21.4	1.8	47.0	4.0
	0	1250	95/95	100	1239	37.7	3.0	7.5	0.6	13.6	1.1	18.0	1.5	44.6	3.6
	2.5	125	95/95	100	2333	99.7	4.3	35.3	1.5	12.6	0.5	48.9	2.1	117.2	5.0

Agrmt = agreement, CFU = colony-forming unit, CV = coefficient of variation, IFU = inclusion-forming unit, N = number of samples, PCyt = PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap, RLU = relative light unit, SD = standard deviation, STM = specimen transport medium.

Note: Variability from some factors may be numerically negative, which can occur if the variability due to those factors is very small. When this occurs, the variability as measured with standard deviation and %CV is set to 0.

## Carryover Studies for the Panther System

Two studies were conducted to evaluate carryover on the Panther system. In the first study, carryover was assessed in multiple runs on three Panther systems with approximately 20% high titer GC samples dispersed between negative samples. The runs included clusters of high positive samples with clusters of negative samples as well as single high positives dispersed within the run. High titer samples were made using GC rRNA spiked into STM to give a final concentration equivalent to  $2.5 \times 10^5$  CFU/mL. Five runs were performed on each of three Panther systems. Carryover was calculated from a total of 2938 valid negative results. The overall carryover rate from this study was 0% with a 95% confidence interval of 0–0.1%.

The second carryover study was conducted on one Panther system with high titer GC positive samples (GC rRNA spiked into STM at the equivalent of  $2.5 \times 10^5$  CFU/mL) alternately processed with negative samples in a checkerboard format. Five checkerboard runs were performed. The overall carryover rate from this study was 0.74% (1/135 negative samples).

### Clinical Specimen Agreement Study

The clinical specimen agreement between the original version and updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay was evaluated using remnant swab specimens collected from patients undergoing CT and/or GC screening. A single replicate of each specimen was tested with both the original version and the updated version of the Aptima Combo 2 assay on the Panther system. Table 37 and Table 38 show the CT and GC positive, negative, and overall percent agreement for the 325 specimens evaluated.

**Table 37: *Chlamydia trachomatis* Clinical Specimen Agreement Study**

		Original Version AC2 Assay	
		CT Positive	CT Negative
Updated Version AC2 Assay	CT Positive	49	3
	CT Negative	0	273
Positive Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 100% (92.7% - 100%)			
Negative Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 98.9% (96.9% - 99.6%)			
Overall Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 99.1% (97.3% - 99.7%)			

**Table 38: *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Clinical Specimen Agreement Study**

		Original Version AC2 Assay	
		GC Positive	GC Negative
Updated Version AC2 Assay	GC Positive	47	1
	GC Negative	0	275
Positive Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 100% (92.4% - 100%)			
Negative Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 99.6% (98.0% - 99.9%)			
Overall Percent Agreement (95% C.I.): 99.7% (98.3% - 99.9%)			

Two samples with GC equivocal results were excluded from this analysis.

## Specimen Stability Studies

The following specimen stability was evaluated using the DTS systems and/or the Tigris DTS system.

### A. Endocervical Swab Specimens

Data to support the recommended shipping and storage conditions for endocervical swab samples were generated with pooled negative swab samples. Five pooled samples were spiked with CT and GC at final concentrations of 10 IFU and 100 CFU per reaction, respectively. The spiked samples were held at 4°C and 30°C. Samples were tested in duplicate at days 0, 20, 35, 60, and 90. All test conditions were positive for both CT and GC at all times and temperatures.

### B. PreservCyt Solution Liquid Pap Specimens

Data to support the recommended shipping and storage conditions for PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap samples were generated with pooled negative PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap samples. Four pooled samples were spiked with CT and GC at final concentrations of 10 IFU and 100 CFU per reaction, respectively. The PreservCyt Solution liquid Pap samples were placed at 30°C for 7 days, after which 1.0 mL of the sample was added to an Aptima Transfer Tube. The spiked samples were held at 4°C, 10°C and 30°C. Samples stored at 4°C and 10°C were tested in duplicate at days 0, 6, 13, 26, 30 and 36. Samples stored at 30°C were tested in duplicate at days 0, 5, 8, 14 and 17. All test conditions were positive for both CT and GC at all times and temperatures.

### C. Vaginal Swab Specimens

Data to support the recommended shipping and storage conditions for vaginal swab samples were generated with pooled negative swab samples. Fifteen vaginal swab pools were spiked with CT and GC at final concentrations of 1.0 IFU and 50 CFU per reaction, respectively. The spiked samples were held at 4°C and 30°C. Samples were tested using one aliquot at days 0, 20, 36, 73, and 114. All test conditions were positive for both CT and GC at all times and temperatures.

### D. Urine Specimens

Data to support the recommended shipping and storage conditions for urine samples were generated with ten female and ten male negative urine samples. The urine samples were spiked with CT and GC at final concentrations of 10 IFU and 100 CFU per reaction, respectively. Two sets of the spiked urine samples were held at 4°C and 30°C for 24 hours prior to being added to the Urine Transport Media (UTM). The two sets of UTM samples then were held at 4°C and 30°C, and tested in triplicate at days 1, 5, 20, and 35. All samples met the pre-specified acceptance criteria for both CT and GC at day 35.

### E. Additional Frozen (at -20°C) Specimen Stability Study

The recommended frozen storage conditions for endocervical swab, urethral swab, vaginal swab, female urine, male urine, and PreservCyt solution liquid pap specimens in transport media is between -20°C to -70°C for up to 12 months after collection. Supporting data for each specimen type were generated using 90 negative specimens. Of these, 30 specimens were spiked with CT and GC at 1.0 IFU and 50 CFU per reaction, respectively; 30 specimens were spiked with CT and GC at 0.1 IFU and 5 CFU per reaction, respectively; and 30 specimens were not spiked. The specimens in transport media were stored frozen within 7 days of collection and tested at days 200 and 400. Specimens met the acceptance criteria of 95% agreement with expected results.



**F. Extragenital Specimen Stability Study**

Data to support the recommended storage conditions for extragenital swab samples were generated with pooled negative swab samples. Throat and rectal pools were spiked with CT and GC at concentrations slightly above the limit of detection per each swab sample type. The spiked samples were held at -70°C, -20°C, 4°C, and 30°C. Samples were tested at days 0, 8, 15, 23, 36, and 60. All test conditions were at least 95% positive for both CT and GC at all times and temperatures.

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