

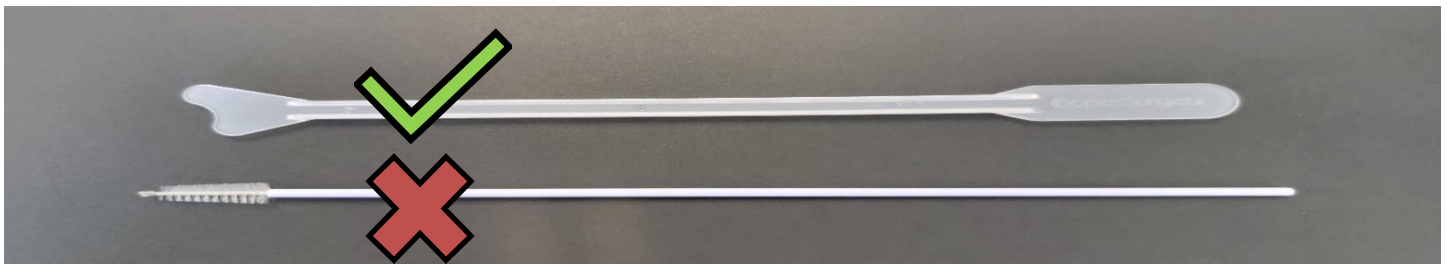
**PROVINCIAL LABORATORY SERVICES  
COMMUNIQUÉ**

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**TO:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Primary Care Staff  
**FROM:** Laboratory Medicine  
**DATE:** June 16, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Liquid Based Cytology, HPV testing on patients >10 weeks pregnant

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Cooper's spatula should be used to collect cells from the cervix of patients that are >10 weeks pregnant. These devices come in sealed packages of 25 along with Cooper's brushes. **Only the Cooper's spatula should be used.** Please discard the brushes, they are not needed.



Sampling instructions:



1. The contoured end of the plastic spatula should be rotated 360° around the entire exocervix while maintaining tight contact with the exocervical surface. Remove the spatula.



2. There is a notched score line near the contoured end of the spatula. With gloved hand(s) and one single, quick, and firm SNAP, separate the contoured end from the rest of the spatula handle, dropping the contoured end into the BD SurePath vial. Do not touch the contoured end. The rest of the plastic handle can be discarded.



3. Replace cap and tighten on BD SurePath Vial Label the BD SurePath Vial with patient's full name and MRN. Submit to laboratory with completed requisition for testing.

**For more information, please contact:**

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