

Instructions for Buccal Cell Collection and Transfer to Indicating FTA® Cards

Attention: Always wear gloves when handling FTA cards and avoid touching the pink sample area of the card.

1. Place the Indicating FTA Card on a clean, dry, flat surface. Label the FTA Card with a unique identifying name, number, etc.
2. Remove one Foam Tipped Applicator (Whatman Part No. WB10-0009) from the protective packaging according to instructions on the packaging.
3. Holding the plastic handle of the Applicator, place the foam tip in the mouth and rub one side of the foam tip on the inside of the cheek for 30 seconds. Repeat using the opposite side of the foam tip for the other cheek. Run the foam tip along the gum-line and fold of the cheek and under the tongue, soaking up as much saliva as possible. Remove the Applicator from the mouth.
4. Carefully lift the paper cover of the Indicating FTA Card to expose the pink sample area. Press the flat, circular foam applicator tip within the sample circle area. **Without lifting the foam tip from the FTA Card**, squeeze the tip using a side-to-side motion (90° in each direction) 3 times to completely saturate the sample area. Turn the Applicator over and repeat with the other side of the foam tip within the same circle. The sample area will turn white indicating the transfer of sample. After the foam tip has touched the FTA Card, do not re-insert it into the mouth.
5. Discard the Applicator according to laboratory procedure.
6. Position the FTA Card for drying by supporting the sample area with the paper cover as shown. Allow the card to dry for at least 1 hour at room temperature.
7. If buccal cells are to be applied to more than one FTA sample area, use a new Applicator and repeat steps 1–6.
8. When the FTA Card is dry, the sample can be processed immediately or packaged for transport or storage.
9. To transport or store the FTA Card, place the Card with a 1 gm Desiccant Packet (Whatman Part No. WB10-0003) into an Multi-Barrier Pouch (Whatman Part No. WB10-0010 or WB10-0011). Remove the liner from the adhesive strip on the Multi-Barrier Pouch and seal by folding along the perforated line.
10. For transport of FTA Cards, an FTA Card Mailer (Whatman Part No. WB10-0016) is recommended. Place the sealed Multi-Barrier Pouch in the Card Mailer, remove the red and white liner strip and seal the Mailer. Follow the instructions from the testing laboratory for transport.



For more information or questions call Technical Services.

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