

# Preparing a Wet Mount

## Introduction

The Wet Mount is a procedure performed in the laboratory to observe motile organisms. It is commonly used to examine material collected from the vaginal wall of a female patient.

## Supplies

1. Personal protective equipment
2. Sharps container
3. Biological waste container and bag
4. Sterile microscope slides
5. Sterile pipettes
6. Glass coverslips
7. Pencil

## Instructions

1. Using a sterile dropper, gently mix and remove some of the specimen from the tube and place one drop (10 $\mu$ L) on a clean microscope slide with the patient's identification number/name.
2. Immediately put a coverslip over the sample for examination. A microscopic review of the slide should be performed as soon as possible to confirm the presence or absence of Trichomonads.
3. Focus with low power (10X), low light.
4. Scan the entire slide.
5. Read at least 10 fields.
6. Identify objects with high power (40X).
7. Record results based on your laboratory's criteria.

