

## HOSPITAL DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST FINLAND

### **FL-STREPTOCOCCUS AGALACTIAE (B), CULTURE (FI-StrBVi, 1729)**

This examination is carried out to identify carriers of bacteria of group B Streptococci. This bacterium is one of the most common causes of septicemia of newborn babies. The disease takes two forms: one form evolves immediately after birth, the other form during the first months of life. The early form of the disease is due to the infection being contracted from the birth canal and the late onset form is contracted elsewhere in the environment of the child. For prevention of the infection, pregnant mothers who carry the bacterium receive a course of antibiotics. Being a carrier of the bacterium is not dangerous to the carrier and does not affect her daily life.

Taking the sample does not require any preparation.

#### Procedure

1. The sample is taken with a cotton swab superficially from the vagina and from the anal opening.

You may ask for the result of this examination at the hospital unit where you are being treated.

Hospital District of Southwest Finland • [www.vsshp.fi](http://www.vsshp.fi) • Telephone exchange +358 2 313 0000

This instruction is intended for patients who are being treated at the Hospital District.

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