

Employee Name: _____

Unit: _____

Upon completion of this competency, the Certified RN will be able to understand the following:	Successfully Completed	Trainee Initials
Fetal Fibronectin (fFN) is a glycoprotein that resides at the chorio-decidual junction and acts like “glue” that adheres these membranes together. fFN should not be present in cervico-vaginal secretions from weeks 22 to 35 of gestation.		
The Rapid fFN [®] test for the TLI ₀ System is FDA approved for the use in symptomatic singleton and twin pregnancies from weeks 24-35. ¹		
Negative result. Approximately 80% of patients will receive a negative result. ¹ The Rapid fFN test has an FDA-approved sensitivity plus a negative predictive value (NPV) of 99.2% for ≤ 14 days, meaning it is highly unlikely that a patient with a negative result will have a preterm delivery in the next 14 days. ¹ After a negative result, unnecessary hospitalization and interventions (tocolytics), could be avoided and reassurance can be provided to the patient. ¹		
Positive result. Identifies patients at risk of preterm delivery. 1 out of 6 symptomatic patients with a positive fFN result deliver within the next 14 days. ¹ Approximately 20% of women presenting with signs & symptoms of preterm labor test positive for fFN. ² After a positive fFN result, a physician may consider the following for a patient: hospitalization, corticosteroids, antibiotics, or IV tocolysis. A physician may also want to increase observation of the patient and obtain a cervical length.		
Use only the Rapid fFN Specimen Collection Kit to collect fFN samples. Rapid fFN Specimen Collection Kits are FREE .		
Collect specimen <i>prior</i> to digital examination or manipulation of the cervix to avoid sample contamination.		
During speculum examination, lightly rotate swab across posterior fornix of the vagina for 10 seconds to absorb cervicovaginal secretions.		
Remove swab and immerse polyester tip in buffer solution. Break off the shaft at the score, even with the top of the tube. Align the end of the swab with the hole inside the tube cap and push down tightly to seal the tube. Warning: Shaft MUST be aligned to avoid leakage.		
Do not test if patient has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate or gross vaginal bleeding • Advanced cervical dilation (3 centimeters or greater) • Rupture of membranes • Suspected or known placental abruption or placenta previa 		
If patient has had sex in the prior 24 hours ¹ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A negative result is still valid. • A positive result may not be valid and should be confirmed >24 hours. 		
Do not contaminate swab or specimen with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lubricants • Soaps • Disinfectants • Creams 		
Label fFN specimen tube properly and transport to laboratory for processing. fFN specimens can be stored at room temperature for 8 hours or refrigerated for up to 3 days. ³		
<p>Hologic provides this as a general informational tool only; it is not an affirmative instruction or guarantee of performance. It is the sole responsibility of medical professionals to read and understand the appropriate package insert and comply with applicable local, state and federal rules and regulations.</p> <p>References: 1. Rapid fFN for the TLI₀ System [package insert]. AW-04196-001, Rev. 004, Sunnyvale, CA: Hologic, Inc.; 2017 2. Peaceman AM, Andrews WW, Thorp JM, et al. Fetal fibronectin as a predictor of preterm birth in patients with symptoms: a multicenter trial. <i>Am J Obstet Gynecol</i> 1997; 177:13-18. 3. Rapid fFN for the TLI₀ System Specimen Collection Kit [instructions for use]. AW-04194-003, Rev. 003. Sunnyvale, CA: Hologic, Inc.; 2017.</p>		

Acknowledgement: I have been assessed for my competency on the above criteria and I assume responsibility for my practice by maintaining ongoing education and communication for any skills and/or practice needs to my manager/supervisor/educator.

Trainer signature: _____

Date: _____

Employee signature: _____

Date: _____