

COLLECTION OF ANAL-RECTAL SPECIMENS

Specimen Labeling:

All specimens should be clearly labeled **BEFORE** being sent to the laboratory for testing, to ensure correct identification of the patient and sample.

All specimen containers/specimens must be labeled with:

- The patient's full name (printed in the same format as patient's health card)
- A second identifier such as date of birth or health card number
- It is recommended that the specimen container also be labeled with specimen source (for non-gynecologic samples)

Specimen container/specimen labeling options are:

- Computer printed label affixed to the side of the specimen container.
- Clearly printed handwritten information on the label of the specimen container using indelible ink

Cytology Requisition Information:

All specimens must be submitted for testing with a completed Cytology & HPV Testing Requisition. The following information must be provided in a **legible format**:

Patient Information:

- Full name of patient (printed in the same format as patient's health card)
- Health card number
- Date of birth
- Date of specimen collection
- Specimen type and collection method (e.g. rectal brush)
- Specimen site (if applicable)
- Number specimens submitted
- Pertinent clinical information

Health Care Provider Information:

- Full name, address and billing number of the ordering health care provider
- Full name, address (and billing number if known) of any copy-to physicians

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Specimen Handling and Transportation:

- Each specimen must be placed into a polybag.
- A completed Cytology & HPV Testing Requisition must accompany each specimen
- Specimens requiring expedited service must be clearly marked as such by the health care provider taking the sample. The typical designation is: ASAP.
- For optimal results transport the specimens to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection.

Collection Kit Information:

Kit components are ordered separately:

1. Liquid based collection vial with 10mL of cytology preservative (BD SurePath™ Preservative Fluid)
2. Polybag
3. Cytology requisition (item # 10136378)
4. Pap Brush (item # 10092169) or dacron swab (for dacron swab contact the LifeLabs Cytology Customer Service at 1-877-849-3637 ext 46802).



CAUTION: SurePath® Preservative Fluid contains an aqueous solution of denatured ethanol and small amounts of methanol and isopropanol. Do not ingest. If swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Call a physician immediately. Give plenty of water to drink. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. If inhaled, remove person to fresh air. In case of contact, immediately flush skin with water; immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Flammable; keep away from heat, sparks & open flame. Avoid contact with eyes.

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Collection Instructions:

1. Place the patient in dorsal lithotomy or lateral recumbent position.
2. Insert a Pap Brush or tap water-moistened Dacron Swab 5-6 cm into the anal canal.
3. Gently press against the anal mucosa while slowly rotating the collection device.
4. Gently remove the collection device from the anal canal.
5. Immediately rinse the Pap Brush/Dacron Swab in CytoLyt solution:
 - Rotate the device in the solution 10 times against the container wall
 - Swirl the device vigorously to release additional material
6. Discard the Pap Brush/Dacron Swab.
7. Screw the cap on the specimen container and securely tighten.

REFERENCE: Palefsky JM, Holly EA, Hogeboom CJ, Jay N, Berry M, Darragh TM. Anal cytology as a screening tool for anal squamous intraepithelial lesions. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Hum Retrovirol.* 1997; 14:415-422.