

COLLECTION OF URINE SPECIMENS FOR CYTOPATHOLOGY



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. voided, bladder wash)
- 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 fluid 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:

Urine kits:

Kit components are ordered separately:

- 90 mL sterile urine container with 40 mL of cytology preservative (Cytolyt®- clear, colourless solution).
- Collection instructions
- Polybag
- Cytology requisition (ordered separately)



Note: Identical kits are used for Fine Needle, Sputum, Urine and Fluid specimens



CAUTION: The preservative contains methyl alcohol. Do not drink. If ingested, do not induce vomiting; call your doctor or local poison control center immediately. Vapor may be harmful if inhaled; use with adequate ventilation. Flammable; keep away from heat, sparks & open flame. Avoid contact with eyes.

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URINE SPECIMENS (VOIDED or CATHETERIZED)

Your health care provider may request the collection of up to 3 urine samples for cytology testing.

IMPORTANT: Only collect one sample per day. Collect samples on consecutive days.

Patient Collection Instructions

1. Drink at least one glass of water every 30 minutes for a period of 3 hours. Urine produced during this time should be discarded.
2. After three hours, when the urge to urinate arises again, void DIRECTLY into the preservative in the specimen container.

Note: The specimen container contains a preservative. This preservative MUST NOT be emptied out.

3. Screw the cap on the container, tighten securely and wash hands.
4. Label the specimen container with:
 - Your full name (printed in the same format as your health card)
 - Your date of birth or health card number
 - Date of the urine collection
5. Complete the patient's information area of the cytology requisition with:
 - Your full name (printed in the same format as on the health card)
 - Your date of birth
 - Your health card number, version and province
 - Your address, postal code & phone number
6. After collection of all the samples (1 to 3 based on your health care provider's recommendation), package the labeled specimen container(s) with the completed cytology requisition(s) in a polybag.
7. Keep the specimen(s) refrigerated.
8. Return the specimen(s) to LifeLabs within 24 hours (after collection of the last sample).

Minimum Specimen Volume: 15 mL/1 Tbsp.

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URINARY SPECIMENS – CON'T

Bladder washing, urethral brushing/washing

Collection Instructions

Bladder washings are typically collected by a urologist at cystoscopy.

1. A balance salt solution is introduced into the bladder via a catheter.
2. The fluid is withdrawn and re-injected into the bladder with moderate force to dislodge epithelial cells. The fluid is then aspirated from the bladder and added to an equal amount of cytology preservative.
3. Tightly re-cap the specimen container.
4. Label the specimen container with the patients' full name and DOB or Health card number, date of collection and sample type (see above instructions).
5. Submit specimen with completed cytology requisition including ALL pertinent clinical information (see above instructions).
6. Keep the preserved specimen at room temperature or refrigerated (2-8°C). It is recommended the specimen be returned to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection. Testing of the sample should occur within 8 days from the date of collection.

Minimum Specimen Volume: 15.0 mL/1 Tbsp.

References:

NCCLS GP23-A Nongynecologic Cytologic Specimens: Collection and Cytopreparatory Techniques; Approved Guideline. Volume 17, Number 19, 1999