



Patient Instructions

Semen Culture

Note: These instructions apply *ONLY* to semen collected for **BACTERIAL CULTURE**. If the specimen is being collected for **SEMEN ANALYSIS** (i.e. for fertility testing or post-vasectomy) collection instructions can be found in the Semen Specimen Patient Instructions and Appointment Form.

Your health care provider has requested a semen culture test. In order to produce a meaningful laboratory test result, follow these instructions exactly.

Collection:

1. Wash hands with soap and water; rinse thoroughly.
2. Using the sterile container provided, produce specimen by masturbation, collecting the entire ejaculate directly into the container.
 - Do not use containers other than what is provided.
 - Do not use a condom or lubricants during collection.
 - Masturbation is the only acceptable method of collection. (Do not use sexual intercourse.)
3. Seal the container immediately after specimen collection and ensure that the lid is on properly and tightly.

Labelling

1. Label the container with your name, date of birth, and the date of collection.

Packaging

1. Place the container in the bag provided and securely close the bag.
2. Fold any paperwork and place in the external pocket of the specimen transport bag. This ensures the specimen will not leak onto the paperwork.

Storage and Transport

1. Keep the specimen at **room temperature** and submit to the laboratory **within 24 hours** of collection.