

COLLECTION OF BODY FLUID 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 specimens/containers 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

Specimen/container 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

Specimen Handling and Transportation:

- Specimens collected from multiple sites should be collected in separate vials with the specimen source identified.
- 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.

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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
- Relevant clinical history
- Specimen source
- Specimen site
- Number of vials and type of specimen
- Collection method (e.g. voided urine, fine needle aspiration)
- 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

Collection Kit Information

Body Cavity Fluid Specimens:

Kit components are ordered separately:

- 90 mL sterile urine container with 40 mL of cytology preservative (Cytolyt®- clear, colourless solution).
- 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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BODY CAVITY FLUID SPECIMENS

Collection Instructions:

1. Use standard paracentesis technique to obtain fluid from the site of interest.
2. Collect the specimen into the container. The specimen container contains a preservative. This preservative **MUST NOT** be emptied out.
3. Use additional containers as required by sample volume.

SMALL specimen volume < 50 mL	LARGE specimen volume > 50 mL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADD equal amount of specimen to cytology preservative. • Re-cap the collection vial tightly and shake vigorously for 30 seconds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let the sample rest on a counter top for 1-2 hours. • Without shaking the container slowly pour off the supernatant until approximately 90 mL remains. • Transfer the specimen into 2 specimen containers with an equal amount of cytology preservative. • Re-cap the collection vial tightly and shake vigorously for 30 seconds.

4. Label the specimen container with; the patients' full name and DOB or Health card number, date of collection, sample type and source (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 to return the specimen 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: 1.0mL.

Reference:

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