

Purpose

These collection instructions are for the health care provider to collect specimens using the Dermatophyte Collection Kit provided by LifeLabs.

Specimen

Skin, hair or nails are considered acceptable specimens for dermatophyte and KOH testing.

Collection:

Dermatophyte Collection Kit



To order the collection kits, submit a Clinic and Physician's Supply Requisition to LifeLabs or call the Physician's Supplies Hotline at:

(604) 412-4481 (Lower Mainland)
 (250) 881-3100 ext. 2124 (Victoria),
 1-800-304-4011 ext 2124 (other Island locations) or

Collection Instructions

1. Clean the infected site with 70% alcohol (or sterile water if inflamed) to eliminate body bacteria. Allow to air dry.
2. Collect specimens onto the **black paper** provided in the LifeLabs Dermatophyte Collection Kit.
 - a. **SKIN:** The active periphery of the infected site should be scraped with a scalpel blade onto the black paper. Carefully fold the paper so the skin scrapings are enveloped inside.
 - b. **NAIL:** Clip the affected nails with a nail clipper or small scissors onto the black paper. Any debris under the nail should also be collected. Carefully fold the black paper so the nail clippings are enveloped inside.
 - c. **HAIR:** Remove lustreless or broken hairs from the infected area of the scalp by plucking hairs from the root. Some skin scrapings from the scalp should be included. Place onto the black paper. Carefully fold the black paper so the hair and any scalp skin scrapings are enveloped inside.
3. Place the folded black paper into the envelope provided.

Labelling Instructions

1. Label the envelope with the specimen type and anatomical site. Do not label as just a skin or nail as the **exact site is required**. i.e. 'skin from elbow', 'skin from chest', 'right big toenail'.
2. Label with patient name **and** date of birth or PHN
3. Date of collection

Packaging Instructions

1. Place the envelope inside the plastic bag provided with the kit and seal.
2. Store and transport at room temperature – do not refrigerate