

COLLECTING A URINE SAMPLE FOR URINE CULTURE

Label the sample container (not the lid) with at least two identifiers prior to giving the container to the patient. Urine Specimen for Chlamydia or GC and a urine sample for bacterial culture require two separate collections.

Clean Catch Urine Collection

Females:

1. Wash hands with soap and water, rinse and dry.
2. Separate the labia and hold them apart; continue to hold the labia apart until the sample is collected.
3. Cleanse urethral opening/vulva with soapy gauze, using a front to back motion.
4. Repeat step 3 for a total of 3 passes.
5. Rinse area with water or moistened gauze using a front to back motion. Use a separate gauze for each pass.
6. Continue to hold labia apart and allow urine to pass into toilet (Do not stop the flow of urine).
7. Collect the midstream portion of urine in container.
8. Place the lid on the container and label the container (not the lid) with the patient's full name (no nick names) and date of birth or UVM Medical Center MRN.

Males:

1. Wash hands with soap and water, rinse and dry.
2. Cleanse penis.
3. If the patient is uncircumcised, retract the foreskin and keep it retracted until the sample is collected. Rinse with water.
4. Allow urine to pass. (Do not stop flow). Collect midstream urine in a sterile container
5. Place the lid on the container and label the container (not the lid) with the patient's full name (no nick names) and date of birth or UVM Medical Center MRN.

Straight Catheter Collection

1. Prior to catheterization, the patient should force fluids until the bladder is full.
2. Clean urethral opening (and the vaginal vestibule in females) with soap and water. Rinse.
3. Pass the catheter into the bladder using sterile technique.
4. Discard the first several milliliters of urine (as it may contain organisms lodged in the catheter during insertion).
5. Collect a sample from mid or later flow into a sterile container.
6. Place the lid on the container and label the container (not the lid) with the patient's full name (no nick names) and date of birth or Fletcher Allen MRN.

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Urine Collection (Dirty Urine)

1. Wash hands with soap and water
2. First voided urine is required. You should not have urinated for at least 1-hour prior to specimen collection.
3. Using the measurement scale on the side of the sterile urine container draw a line at the 30 mL mark with a marker.
4. Do not cleanse area prior to collection.
5. Mark the 30 mL mark on the urine container. Specimen collection volume should be less than 30 mL (2 tablespoons), do not pour off urine to the 30 mL mark, If the patient has gone over collect at another time.
6. The sample must be refrigerated or stored in a cooler with ice after collection. Transport to the lab within 24 hours.

Transport of Urine Sample

- Be sure the lid is secure on the top of the vial.
- Transport samples to the laboratory as soon as possible. If the specimen cannot be processed within one hour, refrigerate the specimen at 4°C. Bacterial counts will remain stable at 4°C for 24 hours.
- If the sample is received after a delay or sample has not been refrigerated, a disclaimer will be included in the patient report.