

**SPECTRUM HEALTH**



# Specimen Collection

Urine Vacutainers

Laboratory Services  
September 2018

# Agenda

[Before you begin](#)

[Collection](#)

[Labeling](#)

[Packaging & Transport](#)

[Resources](#)

*Click on the links above to be taken directly to that section.*

# Before you begin

Wash hands thoroughly and practice standard precautions while handling collection devices and specimens.



Disinfect work surfaces prior to supply set up.

# Before you begin

## Gather your supplies:

- Non-sterile Gloves
- Sterile collection container
- Urine C & S kit
  - 4 mL Gray top with C & S preservative
  - Urine transfer straw
- Yellow Vacutainer x2 (no additive)
  - Urinalysis requires 2 tubes



Item	Lawson #
Gray tube for urine culture	450014
Yellow tube for urinalysis	450013
Urine transfer straw	457657
Kit urine UA (yellow tube + straw)	450015
Kit urine C&S transport (gray tube + straw)	457056

# Before you begin

Check the online test directory ([spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org](https://spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org)) or printed label to make sure that urine vacutainers are acceptable containers for specimen.

Fill out all information on the laboratory requisition form or electronic order.

**Label specimen containers with 2 patient identifiers.**

Failure to label all containers or tubes will result in specimen rejection and recollection.

# Collection

Collect Clean Catch Midstream (CCMS) urine specimen collected into a sterile container (Note: pill bottles or household containers are unacceptable).

*Refer to the [collection brochure](#) for instructions on collecting CCMS urine specimens.*

A minimum volume of 6 mLs of urine is required to ensure testing for both UA and a Culture.



Document #X17776

# Collection

After collection, immediately transfer the urine from the collection container into the vacutainer(s) using a transfer straw.

**Do not** fill tubes by pouring urine or injecting urine into the tube.





# Collection

## Volumes for Urinalysis (UA) and Urine Culture

**Ideal volume to collect is greater than 24 mL:**

One-4 mL UR gray tube plus Two 10mL UR yellow tubes

**If 6-23 mL collected:**

Place 4mL(min of 3mL) in a UR gray tube , and the remaining urine in UR yellow tube(s)

**Less than 6mL collected:**

Send Urine Cup immediately to Lab, or refrigerate until able to do so

# Collection

Place sterile container with urine on a clean, flat surface.

Do not touch tip of transfer straw (it must remain sterile).

Submerge tip of transfer straw into specimen. The container may be tipped at an angle if volume of urine is limited.

Order of draw: Gray tube before Yellow tubes.



# Collection

Push the tube into the holder, stopper down. Advance the tube over the puncture point to pierce the stopper.

Hold tube in position until the flow stops (filled). Filling is complete when vacuum tube no longer continues to draw. Tubes are designed to draw the volume indicated.

For the gray tube, urine **MUST** meet the minimum fill line of 3 mL to be valid. Under filled tube **will not** be processed.



# Collection

Remove tube from the holder, leaving the transfer straw in the specimen container.

Gray Urine C&S tubes should be inverted 8 – 10 times to dissolve white pellet (preservative) at the bottom of the tube.

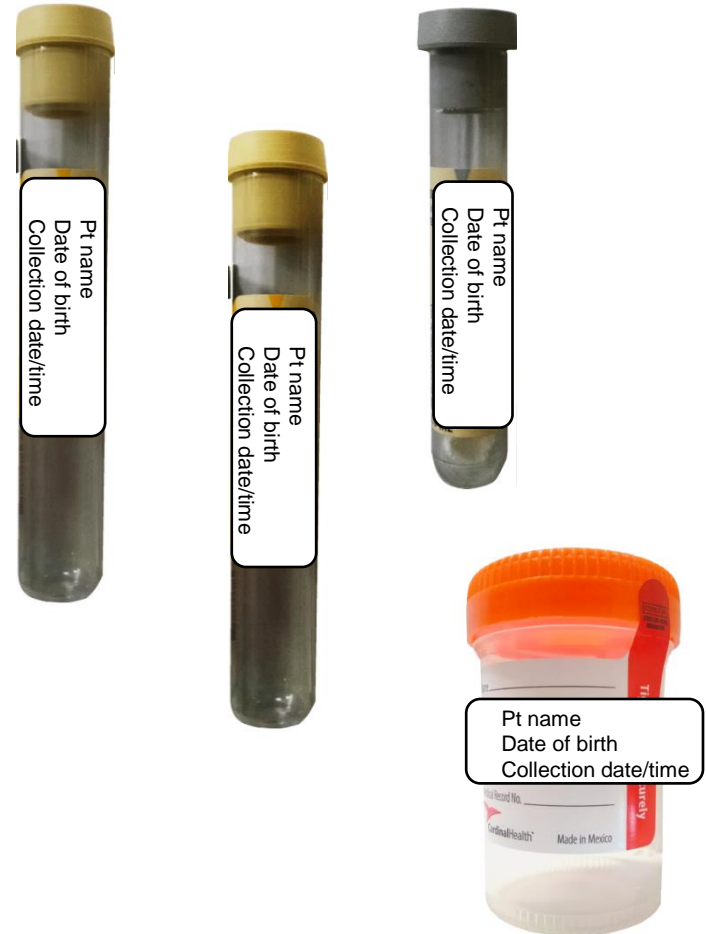
Repeat transfer steps for both yellow UA tubes. Yellow tubes do not need to be inverted, as there is no additive.



# Collection

Label ALL specimens with **2** patient identifiers and collection time and date.

If you are also sending the urine collection container, please replace lid and check that it is fastened evenly and securely. Leaky specimens will be discarded.



# Collection

Once all tubes have been filled, discard transfer straw into biohazard container approved for sharps disposal.

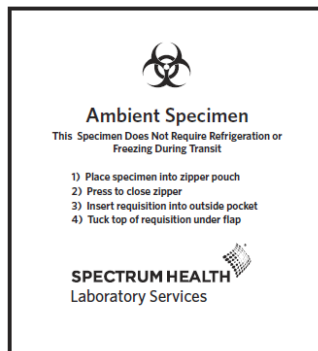
Discard remaining urine according to your facility's recommended procedure.

**Transport temperature for yellow and gray tubes:** Ambient or Refrigerated are acceptable.

# Packaging & Transporting

Send specimen according to collection and processing requirements in the online laboratory test directory:

- [Spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org](https://spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org)



**Ambient Specimen**  
This Specimen Does Not Require Refrigeration or Freezing During Transit

- 1) Place specimen into zipper pouch
- 2) Press to close zipper
- 3) Insert requisition into outside pocket
- 4) Tuck top of requisition under flap

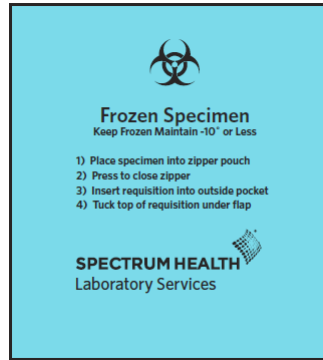
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**Refrigerated Specimen**  
Keep Cool, But DO NOT Freeze

- 1) Place specimen into zipper pouch
- 2) Press to close zipper
- 3) Insert requisition into outside pocket
- 4) Tuck top of requisition under flap

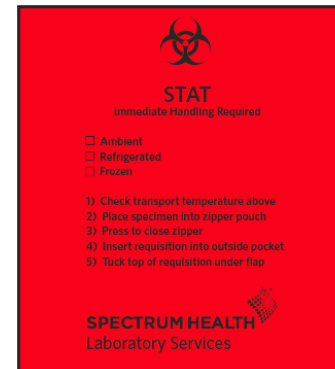
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**Frozen Specimen**  
Keep Frozen Maintain -10° or Less

- 1) Place specimen into zipper pouch
- 2) Press to close zipper
- 3) Insert requisition into outside pocket
- 4) Tuck top of requisition under flap

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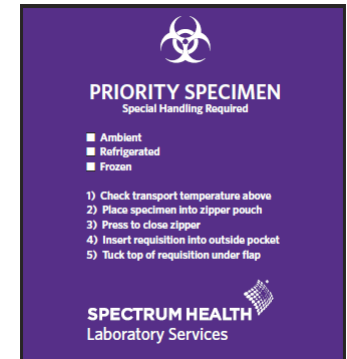


**STAT**  
Immediate Handling Required

Ambient  
 Refrigerated  
 Frozen

- 1) Check transport temperature above
- 2) Place specimen into zipper pouch
- 3) Press to close zipper
- 4) Insert requisition into outside pocket
- 5) Tuck top of requisition under flap

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**PRIORITY SPECIMEN**  
Special Handling Required

Ambient  
 Refrigerated  
 Frozen

- 1) Check transport temperature above
- 2) Place specimen into zipper pouch
- 3) Press to close zipper
- 4) Insert requisition into outside pocket
- 5) Tuck top of requisition under flap

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# Resources

Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory

Phone: **616.774.7721**

Fax: **616.774.5159**

Email: **LaboratoryServices@spectrumhealth.org**

Test Directory and Collection Instructions:

**[spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org/](https://spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org/)**

Laboratory News & Updates: **[lab.spectrumhealth.org](https://lab.spectrumhealth.org)**

More training modules: **[lab.spectrumhealth.org/training](https://lab.spectrumhealth.org/training)**



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