URINE CYTOLOGY: COLLECTION, LABELING, AND PROCESSING OF SPECIMENS

I. **Principle:** The processing of urinary tract specimens including catheterized and voided urines and bladder or ureter washings submitted for cytological evaluation to determine the presence or absence of malignant tumor cells, infectious processes or other diagnostic processes.

II. **Ordering and Labeling:**
   - Order the test in EPIC using test code LAB13 for Non-Gyn cytology.
   - Enter the Specimen Source.
   - Enter the source description in the box on the same line at the far right of the screen.
   - When the Specimen Source is entered, another box opens below it for an additional specimen.
   - Fill in for as many specimens as needed. Sign the order.
   - Go to the Collection activity.
   - Select collect all and document collection information by:
     - Click on the pencil to edit all collection information for all specimens.
     - OR click on the blue hyperlinks for each specimen to edit only that specimen’s collection information
   - NOTE: additional sources can be added and source description can be modified during collection ONLY before clicking on the Print Labels button.
   - Click on Print Labels.
   - Label the specimen container using the EPIC generated label.

III. **Collection:**
   1. Collect a specimen into a clean container or a Cytolyt solution vial. First morning specimens are not recommended.
   2. A minimum of 10 mls is desired for optimum cytological evaluation. If other tests are requested in addition to cytology, withdraw a portion of the specimen and submit to the appropriate laboratory following their guidelines, and printing appropriate label.
   3. Refrigeration is recommended.