ANAL CYTOLOGY SPECIMENS

I. **Principle:** The specimens are processed to determine the presence of malignant or premalignant cells.

II. **Ordering and Labeling:**
   Order the test in EPIC using test code LAB13, completing the prompts for the test. After the order is signed, go to collect specimen. Click on the clipboard icon. Indicate number of specimens (this is the number of labels that will print), the date, time and collector. Label the fixative vial using the EPIC generated label. If microscopic slides are used, label the slides with the patient’s name and medical record number using a pencil. Label the Microscopic slide container with the footee label.

Proper patient history is essential to the successful interpretation of a cytological specimen and is required by regulations. Any evaluation and report is, at best, incomplete without correlating the cytological studies with a complete patient history. Improper labeling may cause the specimen to be returned for proper labeling, a delay while waiting for proper labeling or the specimen to be rejected and discarded.

III. **Collection:**
   **Materials:**
   Cytobrush
   Vial of Presercyt fixative

   1. Using the collection brush obtain an adequate sample by inserting the brush into the anal canal 1.5 to 2 inches.
   2. As the brush is pulled out, apply some pressure to the wall of the anus, rotating the brush in a spiral motion.
   3. Rinse the brush in the thinprep vial immediately by rotating the brush in the solution 10 times while pushing the brush against the vial wall. Swish the brush vigorously. Discard the brush.
   4. Tighten the cap so that the black torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
   5. Label the vial with the EPIC generated label.