

Patient Instructions for Collection of a Semen Specimen

Introduction

Your physician has requested that you collect a semen specimen for testing as part of your care. The information your doctor gets from these samples is only as accurate as the collection procedure. It is important that you collect the specimen as outlined below.

Reason For Testing

Semen analysis is routinely performed for one of two reasons:

- To check for the presence of sperm in patients who have had a vasectomy – this will be requested 10 weeks post vasectomy
- For the study of male fertility

Precautions

- Collect specimen when it is convenient to deliver the specimen back to the laboratory within one hour of collection. Specimens only accepted during hours indicated by the receiving laboratory. Samples not accepted after hours, on weekends or statutory holidays. Check with the receiving laboratory regarding when specimens are accepted.
- Always collect specimen in the collection container provided by your doctor or the laboratory. Collection in any other container will result in the specimen being rejected for analysis.
- Do not use a condom or lubricants for collection of specimen – sperm-immobilizing properties of the material used in the manufacturing of condoms will interfere with the testing being performed and may cause inaccurate results.
- Do not ejaculate (either through sexual intercourse or masturbation) for minimum 48 hours to maximum of 7 days before collection.

Sample container and requisition must be labeled with patient's full name, PHIN and collection date and time. Name and PHIN must match identically to information on requisition or your specimen may be rejected for analysis

Laboratory Hours for Specimen Drop-off:

Rural Lab Location _____

Drop off days / times _____

Laboratory Contact # _____

or

Westman Lab

Mon-Fri, 0800-1600hrs 204-578-4440

Read The Collection Instructions Completely Prior To Collection**Collection**

1. Wash hands prior to collection.
2. Collect semen specimen by masturbation directly into the container provided by the doctor's office or laboratory. No other containers are accepted.
3. Ensure entire ejaculate is collected and no portion is lost. The distribution of sperm cells is not uniform throughout the entire ejaculate; the loss of the first or last portion may give inaccurate test results.
4. Ensure the cap of the collection container is securely closed after collection.
5. Write the date and time of collection on the specimen container and requisition.
6. Place the specimen inside the specimen bag provided; place the requisition in the side pouch of the same bag.
7. Deliver to lab within one hour of collection. Keep the sample as close to body temperature as possible by placing the specimen inside a pocket close to the body.