Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

Urine Cytology - Calgary Zone

How to Prepare

- A sterile laboratory specimen container will be given to you.
- **Drink** 3 eight-ounce glasses of water approximately 1 hour before collection in order to obtain a well hydrated urine specimen.

Risks or Cautions

You will have to repeat the urine specimen collection if your specimen container:

- is not correctly and completely labelled.
- is frozen or stored at high temperatures.

Labelling the Specimen

Label the collection container with the following information:

- Your (the patient) full first and last name
- The date and time of specimen collection
- Your unique personal health number (PHN or ULI#)
 Alberta PHN is found on the Alberta Personal Health Card



If you do not have a PHN or ULI please ask your local laboratory for alternatives. Please note all specimens need 2 identifiers to be processed.

Lab Requisition

On the APL Calgary Non-Gynecological Cytopathology Requisition REQ9041CY-NON

- **Print** the date and time the sample was collected on your lab requisition.
- Fold and place the requisition in the outside pocket of the plastic bag.

Collecting the Specimen

- **Do not** collect the first morning urine specimen.
- Females hold outer edges of labia apart and cleanse from front to back
 Males retract foreskin if not circumcised
- Collect a fresh urine specimen in the sterile laboratory specimen container.
 Females continue to hold labia apart while urinating
 Males continue to retract foreskin while urinating
- Ensure the lid of the specimen container is securely tightened to avoid leakage.
- Place the specimen container in the biohazard bag and seal the bag.

Specimen Delivery to Lab

- Take your specimen to your local laboratory within 1 hour.
- If there is a delay in delivering the specimen to the laboratory, the specimen should be refrigerated.

Questions About Your Collection?

Laboratory location, hours and contact information may be found at:

- www.albertaprecisionlabs.ca
- Alberta Precision Laboratories 1-877-868-6848
- Health Link Alberta at 811