ALBERTA PRECISION LABORATORIES

Patient Instructions

Sputum for Cytology (LTR71427)

Last Approved Time: 11/11/2022

Revision: 2.50

Specimen will not be tested if label or requisition is missing information.

Please follow the instructions below for accurate test results.

Brush your teeth and rinse your mouth with water.

Hold the cup very close to your mouth. Take a deep breath and cough deeply from your chest. The specimen from your lungs is called sputum. Put the sputum into the cup. Sputum should be thick, not watery. Sputum may be yellow or green. A minimum of 15 mL or 1 tablespoon of sputum is required. Please do not put saliva from your mouth into the cup.

Put the lid on the cup and close tightly.

Make sure the cup is labelled with all of the following:

- •
- Healthcare number
- Date and time of collection

Put the specimen cup in the section of the bag that closes and close the ziplock.

Wash your hands with soap and water.

Put your requisition in the outer pocket of the bag.

Take the specimen and the requisiton to the laboratory as soon as possible. Specimen must arrive in the laboratory within 2 hours of collection. Store in refrigertor if not going directly to the laboratory.

