

Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

## COLLECTION: SUPERFICIAL MYCOLOGY SAMPLES

Guidelines for Physicians

Collection container(s):	Submit samples using Fungal Collection Kit
Minimum Sample Quantity:	5–6 pieces
Collection instructions for Skin Scrapings:	<ul> <li>Clean the affected area with 70% alcohol and allow to air dry</li> <li>Scrape the active periphery of the affected site with a scalpel blade onto the black paper provided in the Fungal Collection kit</li> <li>Carefully fold the black paper so that the skin scrapings are enveloped inside</li> <li>Place the folded black paper into the envelope and label as indicated below</li> </ul>
Collection instructions for Nail Scrapings:	<ul> <li>Clean the affected area with 70% alcohol and allow to air dry</li> <li>Scrape the underside of the nail and nail bed onto the black paper provided in the Fungal Collection kit. Scrape affected nails deeply enough to obtain recently invaded nail tissue. The initial scrapings should be discarded as they are usually contaminated</li> <li>Carefully fold the black paper so the scrapings are enveloped inside</li> <li>Place the folded black paper into the envelope and label as indicated below</li> </ul>
Collection instructions for Hair and Scalp Samples:	<ul> <li>Remove lusterless or broken hairs from affected areas of the scalp. Some skin scrapings from the scalp should also be included. Collect onto the black paper provided in the kit.</li> <li>Carefully fold the black paper so the scrapings are enveloped inside</li> <li>Place the folded black paper into the envelope and label as indicated below</li> </ul>
Labelling the sample:	Label each envelope with the patient's Full name (first and last) <b>AND</b> Personal Health Number (PHN) or other unique identifier, date and time of collection and sample site and type
Sample transport:	Transport all samples and requisitions to the laboratory within 24 hours of collection
Samples that are not labelled correctly and do not have a completed requisition will not be tested.	

## **Questions? Call Alberta Precision Laboratories at 403-770-3600.**