



PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

Sputum for Cytology

Sputum is a fluid from the lungs that often contains pus and could be of a thick consistency.

PROCEDURE

- Collect 3 deeply coughed sputum specimens:
on 3 separate days (*not necessarily consecutive days preferably early in the morning before eating or drinking into the sterile, yellow-top containers*).
- A deeply coughed sputum sample must be obtained.
Saliva only is not acceptable. Saliva is a clear fluid from the mouth.
- Screw the lid firmly onto the container to avoid spillage.
- **Write your surname, first given name, date of birth and the date/time of collection on the container label.**
- Each sputum specimen must be delivered as soon as possible on each day of collection.
- The collection staff are required to check your details (surname, first given name, date of birth and date and time of collection on the container label) against the pathology request form to ensure the sample is matched to the doctor's request. This is done to ensure the safety and security of reporting your test results.

EQUIPMENT

3x Sterile Yellow-top Containers

For more information:

If you have any questions or would like to know the location of your nearest Healthscope Collection Centre, please call 1300 453 688.

Visit

www.healthscopepathology.com.au for an easy search by postcode to find your nearest collection centre.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact our Customer Service Centre.

1300 453 688