

University of California, Davis  
Health System, Sacramento  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

***COLLECTION OF URINE CULTURES AND  
URINALYSIS***

Administrative Procedure 545.G

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**PURPOSE:**

To insure uniform patient instruction for urine collection for urine cultures and urinalysis.

**POLICY:**

All patients requested to collect urine for urine cultures or urinalysis must be given proper verbal and/or written instructions on the collection of clean catch urine samples. In addition, the patient must be instructed on how to use the collection containers.

**PROCEDURE:**

A. URINE CULTURE SPECIMEN:

Please instruct the patient to:

1. Unscrew cap of the urine specimen cup. Place cap on counter with inside facing upward to avoid contamination; do not touch the inside of the cup or cap.
2. Cleanse with towelette as follows:
  - a. MALE  
Wipe head of penis in a single motion with a towelette. If not circumcised, hold foreskin back before cleansing. Urinate a small amount into the toilet or bedpan.
  - b. FEMALE  
Separate the lips of the vagina. Wipe inner folds from front to back in a single motion. With second towelette, wipe down through center of labial folds. Keep the labia separated and urinate a small amount of urine into the toilet or bedpan.
3. Place the urine cup under the stream and continue to urinate into the cup to collect the specimen.
4. Finish urinating into toilet or bedpan.
5. Replace cap securely on cup. Do not remove label.
6. Put specimen in the wall receptacle located in the restroom or return specimen to lab staff member as requested.

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7. Laboratory Staff Responsibilities:
  - a. Verify the specimen is properly labeled and identified.
  - b. Transfer urine to the grey cap Microbiology Urine Transport Tube (UTT). The UTT must be filled with a minimum of 4-ml of urine. Properly label UTT. (If less than 4-ml is available for culture, leave the urine in the cup and send on-ice).
  - c. Forward the specimen to the laboratory for testing.

**B. ROUTINE URINE ANALYSIS**

1. Patient will complete steps 1-7 above.
  2. Lab staff will transfer urine to the yellow cap Urinalysis Transport Tube.
  3. Verify the specimen is properly labeled and identified.
  4. Forward the specimen to the laboratory for testing.
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**PROCEDURE HISTORY:**

Date	Written Revised By	Revision	Approved Date	Approved By
12/94	G. Cooper	New	12/94	D. Dwyer
11/96	C. White	Revised	11/96	E. Larkin
10/98	D. Wright	Reviewed	11/98	E. Larkin
10/99	V. Lumbang	Revised	10/99	E. Larkin
10/00	V. Lumbang	Revised	10/00	E. Larkin
10/01	D. Wright	Reviewed	10/01	E. Larkin
10/02	V. Lumbang	Revised	10/02	E. Larkin
10/03	D. Wright	Reviewed	10/03	E. Larkin
10/04	D. Wright	Reviewed	10/04	E. Larkin
10/05	D. Wright	Reviewed	10/03	E. Larkin
9/06	C. White	Reviewed	9/06	R. Green
9/07	C. White	Reviewed	09/07	R. Green
06/08	C. White	Reviewed	6/08	R. Green
06/09	C. White	Reviewed	06/09	L. Howell
11/09	C. White	Reviewed	12/09	J. Bishop
09/10	C. White	Revised	9/10	L. Howell
09/11	C. White	Reviewed	9/11	L. Howell
08/14	A.Castaneda	Biennial Review	09/14	