

Cytology Gynecological Smear Collection

Cytology Specimens

Specimens should be sent to Cytology immediately. If specimen cannot be sent immediately, refrigerate. DO NOT FREEZE. Fill out a cytology requisition form for each specimen submitted.

Cytology Requisition Requirements

Include the following information:

- First and last name of the patient.
- Medical Center identification number or unique identifier.
- Patient location.
- Ordering physician.
- Name or initials of person collecting the specimen.
- Date and time of collection.
- Pertinent clinical data including clinical history.

Cytology Container Labeling Requirements

Each specimen container must be labeled with the following information.

- First and last name of the patient.
- Medical Center identification number or unique identifier.
- Patient location.
- Ordering physician.

Gynecological Smears

Many different techniques exist for obtaining gynecological material for pap smears. These include aspiration of vaginal pool, cervical scrapes, endocervical aspiration, and mixed smear of vaginal and cervical origin. All of these methods are effective and the laboratory cannot dictate which method must be used. We will accept any specimen provided the material is adequate in the amount and is properly preserved. We provide the following as a guide for the novice.

SurePath Pap Smear (liquid-based Pap)

- Using a Rovers Cervix-brush[®], insert the central bristles into the endocervical canal.
- Maintaining gentle pressure, rotate the brush clockwise five times.
- Insert the brush into the sure path vial. Detach the handle of the brush. Reseal the vial
- Label the vial completely for patient identification.

Standard Pap Smear

- The patient should not douche or use vaginal medication for 24 hours prior to obtaining the specimen.
- The patient's name should be written in black lead pencil on the frosted end of the slide, same side that specimen is applied.
- Insert speculum without use of lubricating jelly and collect the specimen.

