

Urine Collections

Check individual test for specimen container and additive requirements.
REFRIGERATE all urines if they are stored before delivery to laboratory.

Clean Catch Urine-Female Patients:

1. Separate skin folds around urinary opening.
2. Wash urinary opening and its surroundings from front to back with a sterile antiseptic pad.
3. Rinse with clean water on gauze to avoid contamination from soap.
4. Begin urinating into toilet, making sure to keep skin folds apart with fingers on 1 hand.
5. Wait until urine stream is well established before moving container into path of stream to catch rest of urine.
6. Do not touch cup to genital area.
7. Replace lid and label specimen.
8. Refrigerate specimen immediately.

Clean Catch Urine-Male Patients:

1. Wash end of penis well with a sterile antiseptic pad.
2. Rinse to avoid contamination with soap.
3. Begin urinating into toilet. Wait until urine stream is well established before moving container into path of stream to catch rest of urine.
4. Do not touch cup to genital area.
5. Replace lid and label specimen.
6. Refrigerate specimen immediately.

24-Hour Urine Collection

WARNING-Many 24-hour urine collections require an acid solution to preserve specimen. Patients should be cautioned NOT to urinate directly into container due to possibility of acid burns. Containers are provided by laboratory. At time container is picked up, appropriate preservative will be placed in container, if applicable.

1. Record time collection is begun.
2. Have patient empty bladder at beginning of collection period and DISCARD urine.
3. SAVE all urine for next 24 hours.
4. At end of 24-hour period, empty bladder and SAVE urine.
5. Record time ending collection.
6. If an aliquot of urine is requested, mix urine well, measure and record total volume and send requested volume of urine.
7. Refrigerate all 24-hour urine specimens during collection, and if storage is required prior to transport to laboratory.

12-Hour Urine Collection

WARNING-Many 12-hour urine collections require an acid solution to preserve specimen. Patients should be cautioned NOT to urinate directly into container due to possibility of acid burns. Containers are provided by laboratory. At time container is picked up, appropriate preservative will be placed in container, if applicable.

1. Record time collection is begun.
2. Have patient empty bladder at beginning of collection period and DISCARD urine.
3. SAVE all urine for next 12 hours.
4. At end of 12-hour period, empty bladder and SAVE urine.
5. Record time ending collection.
6. If an aliquot of urine is requested, mix urine well, measure and record total volume and send requested volume of urine.
7. Refrigerate all 12-hour urine specimens during collection, and if storage is required prior to transport to laboratory.

General

1. Early morning urine specimens are preferred for routine urinalysis, but if this is not possible in cases of STATS and pre-Ops, send specimen to laboratory when requested by physician. SPECIMENS SHOULD NOT BE HELD ON NURSING UNIT ANY LONGER THAN 30 MINUTES.
2. Bladder lavage is completely unsatisfactory if obtaining a catheterized urine specimen.
3. For collection of catheterized urine specimens, use only sterile urine containers which will be found on catheter tray and may also be secured from Supply Processing and Distribution.
4. Collect infant urine specimens in pedi-bags or plastic urine containers. Specimens wrung out of cotton balls, diapers, sheets, etc, are unacceptable.

5. Urine specimens for bile and urobilinogen should be taken to laboratory IMMEDIATELY AFTER COLLECTION. Be sure to let someone in laboratory know what specimens are for, so that they will be given immediate attention.
6. Any specimen intended for culture must be collected under strictly sterile conditions and brought to laboratory immediately. Stool specimens are an exception and should be brought in regular stool containers.

An out patient that needs a catheterized urine will be sent to Emergency Services triage. Patient will be admitted and an Emergency Services RN will collect appropriate specimen.