

Collection of Sputum for Micro and Culture



Equipment

- 1x 70ml Yellow-top Container
Available from any Clinical Labs collection centre or your doctor.

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

Procedure

- First morning specimen prior to eating or drinking is preferred.
- Remove any dentures, gargle with water and rinse your mouth.
- Cough deeply to produce a specimen of sputum into the container provided.
- Ensure specimen is sputum, not saliva. 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.**
- Please deliver completed sample to Clinical Labs collection centre as soon as possible.
- The collection staff will check your details (surname, first given name, date of birth and date/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 the reporting of your results.