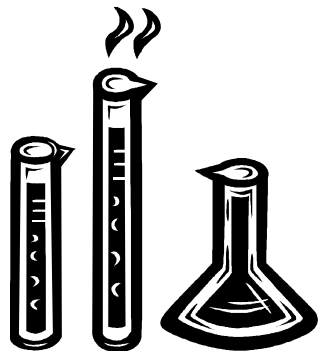


# Laboratory Outpatient Instructions for Collection of Semen

## *ITEMS PROVIDED:*

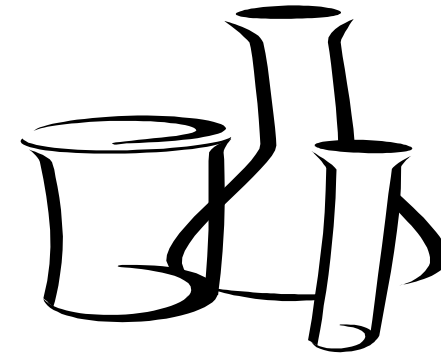
- Clean Wide-Mouth Screw-top Plastic Container
- Semen analysis is performed in the Hospital Laboratory Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.. Specimens are not accepted at the hospital on weekends or holidays.



- The complete analysis involves several hours of work; therefore, a specimen received in the early morning is preferable.
- Semen is best collected by masturbation after a three day period of sexual abstinence from intercourse or masturbation. The sample may be collected at home or in a bathroom close to the laboratory.

Do not abstain more than four days, because the quality of the semen and the motility of the sperm will diminish.

However, if your doctor has given you specific instructions in this regard, his orders should be followed.



- A condom is unacceptable because many condoms contain a spermicide and it is impossible to retrieve all the sample for analysis.
- Coitus interruptus (early withdrawal during intercourse) is unacceptable. The first ejaculate maybe lost and that is the portion of semen containing the majority of spermatozoa.

- The semen should be ejaculated directly into a clean, dry, wide-mouth plastic jar given to you by the laboratory or your doctor to avoid the possibility of introducing trace amounts of detergents or other harmful contaminants into the specimen.

- 1) After ejaculating the entire specimen into the container provided to you, place the lid on the container and secure it tightly.
- 2) Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, dry.
- 3) Please label the container with your name and time of collection.
- 4) If the sample is collected away from the lab, it must be brought to the lab as quickly as possible and kept close to body temperature by placing the jar inside your shirt during transport.

- 5) The specimen must be received in the lab within 30 minutes of collection so that the technologist is able to examine sperm motility of the sample one hour after collection. A questionnaire must be completed before leaving.

If you have any questions about time or collection, please feel free to call the Hematology Lab at (410) 822-1000, extension 5529. The results of the test will be sent to your doctor.

**Please make sure that the specimen submitted is labeled with patient name, and date and time of collection.**



219 S. Washington Street, Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 820-9355 or 1-800-666-3222

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