

**ARNOT HEALTH  
POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL**

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**TITLE:** URINE CULTURE AND SENSITIVITY COLLECTION

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**Title:** URINE CULTURE AND SENSITIVITY

A urine culture and sensitivity may be requested on a patient with symptoms of urinary tract infection (UTI). A clean catch specimen is required to ensure that the specimen is free of contaminating matter from the external genital area.

**Materials:**

1. Sterile container
2. Sterile cleansing towelette

**Labeling Procedure:** Place a barcoded label on the specimen container (not on the lid) before handing out the container to the patient. If the computer label is not available, place a chart label or write the patient's first and last name, and date of birth before giving the container to the patient.

The date and time of collection must also be indicated on the container before the specimen is sent to the laboratory for testing.

**Instruct the patient to collect a midstream specimen.**

**A. Procedure for Males:**

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Cleanse the area with sterile towelette, beginning at the urethral opening and working away from it.
3. Void the first portion of urine into the toilet. Collect a portion of the urine into the container. Void the remainder of the urine into the toilet.
4. Place the lid on the container by touching only the outside.

**B. Procedure for Females:**

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Stand in a squatting position over the toilet.

