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| Sputum: **Day(s) / Time(s) Performed:** | **Monday - Friday**  **8am-5pm** |
| Turn Around Time\*\*: | 24 hours |
| **Specimen Collection Supplies:** | • **Specimen Collection Container** |
| Specimen Collection: | Early morning spontaneous deep cough technique is appropriate for symptomatic patients with pulmonary disease and free airways. The patient should be given three, wide mouth, disposable, labeled containers and instructed as follows:  1. For three successive mornings, upon waking, clear throat of any material that accumulated overnight and discard.  2. Rinse mouth out with water several times.  3. Cough deeply several times during the waking hour each morning.  4. Spit whatever rises with the coughs into the specimen collection cup, using different cups each morning.  5. Refrigerate containers until delivered to laboratory. |
| **Specimen Handling:** | **Refrigerated** |
| Specimen Requirements: | • Labeled with two (2) patient identifiers  • Completed cytology specimen requisition  • All specimens should be placed in a secondary “Biohazard Safety Bag”. |
| **Transportation:** | **As Soon As Possible Deliver / Send to Laboratory or Teton Pathology** |
| Comment/Special Instruction: | Three consecutive early morning specimen's increase they yield of malignant cells.  **Do not use formalin as a fixative** |
| **Rejection Criteria:** | • **Inadequate information / missing requisition**  • **Unlabeled / Mislabeled Specimen**  • **Specimen received in inappropriate fixative** |
| Retention Time of Specimen: | One (1) Week After Final Report is Issued |
| **Laboratory Testing Performed:** | **Cytopathology – Teton Pathology** |