

Collection Procedure – Sputum

Your referring provider has asked that you provide a sputum sample for analysis. You can help insure the accuracy of the analysis by following these instructions carefully.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Consult with your physician to verify when the specimen is to be collected and tested. To obtain a sterile specimen container, please contact the Laboratory.

Sputum is material that comes from deep in the lungs or bronchi. It is **not** saliva or nasal secretions. Saliva and nasal secretions will be rejected.

1. Do not eat or drink anything 1 hour prior to collection of Sputum. (*water is acceptable*)
2. Specimen should be collected in the morning after you have brushed your teeth (remove dentures if necessary) rinsed your mouth, and gargled with **water**. Mouthwashes, which often contain antibacterial agents, should not be used.
3. Cough deeply and spit out sputum from the lungs or bronchi into a sterile specimen container provided by the laboratory.
4. Refrigerate specimen and deliver to Hospital Laboratory within 24 hours of collection.
5. It is a requirement to check in with registration when dropping off specimens as some tests require blood work as well.

If you have any questions or concerns about collection or the tests being performed, please contact the laboratory at: (541) 426-5308.

Please provide the following information and return this form with your specimen.

Name:	Date of Birth:
Collection Date:	Collection time: