Collection Guide
Pap Specimens

Laboratory Services
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Ordering Requirements

Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory offers these tests for Pap and HPV testing. These are general consensus guidelines, for more information visit the ASCCP website:

- **Test #52 – PAP – HPV if ASCUS/AGUS**
  - Recommended for ages 21 – 29

- **Test #55 – PAP – HPV if NIL/ASCUS/AGUS**
  - Recommended for ages 30+

- **Test #47 – PAP – No reflex HPV**
  - If HPV is desired it must be ordered separately ([#241 HPV High Risk screen](#241 HPV High Risk screen))

- **Test #251 – HPV Genotyping**
  - Must be added on separately, recommended for ages 30+ with a negative PAP HPV
Ordering Requirements

The requisition/order is the main communication link between the physician and the laboratory.

Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory provides paper requisitions for your convenience (Anatomic Pathology form #LAB477)

Or you may print from your EMR or order electronically if you are interfaced with Spectrum Health via EPIC or eSHare. For more information on this, email LaboatoryServices@spectrumhealth.org.
Ordering Requirements

The order should contain the following information:

- Patient’s Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Diagnosis Code
- Insurance Information
- Date Collected
- Menstrual Status (LMP, hysterectomy, pregnant # of wks, postpartum # of weeks, hormone therapy, menopause)
- Previous abnormal cervical cytology result, previous treatment, biopsy or surgical procedure.
- Source of Specimen (e.g. cervical, vaginal)
- Screening or Diagnostic testing
Labeling

Safety of our patients and quality of care are of the utmost importance.

For this reason we require specimens be labeled with at least two patient identifiers (i.e., patient name, date of birth and/or Spectrum Health MRN).

We will no longer return unlabeled or mislabeled specimens lacking two identifiers.

These specimens will be discarded and repeat collection will be necessary.
Collection

HOLOGIC® ThinPrep® Pap Test

- Suggestions for an adequate smear
- Brush & Spatula
- Broom-like Device
Suggestions for an adequate smear

- Patient should avoid douches 48-72 hours prior to examination.
- Do PAP smear prior to biannual exam.
- Visualize entire cervix
- Do ectocervical scraping first and then endocervical sample by gently rotating brush to reduce bleeding caused by brush.
- Small amounts of blood will not interfere with cytologic evaluation, but large amounts preclude cytologic evaluation.
- Use of lubricating jelly will interfere with cytologic examination.
- Do not use wooden collection devices.
Collection – Brush & Spatula

Obtain…

...an adequate sampling from the ectocervix using a plastic spatula. If desired, use lukewarm water to warm and lubricate the speculum. Water-soluble gel lubricant sparingly applied to the posterior blade of the speculum can be used if necessary.¹ Select contoured end of plastic spatula and rotate it 360 degrees around the entire exocervix while maintaining tight contact with exocervical surface.

¹. Cervicovaginal Cytology Based on the Papanicolaou Technique; Approved Guideline – Third Edition (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute GP15-A3).
Rinse...

...the spatula as quickly as possible in the PreservCyt solution vial by swirling the spatula vigorously in the vial 10 times. Discard the spatula.
Obtain…

...an adequate sampling from the endocervix using an endocervical brush device. Insert the brush into the cervix until only the bottommost fibers are exposed. Slowly rotate 1/4 or 1/2 turn in one direction. DO NOT OVER-ROTATE.
Rinse…

...the brush as quickly as possible in the PreservCyt solution by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing against the PreservCyt vial wall. Swirl the brush vigorously to further release material. Discard the brush.
Collection – Brush & Spatula

Tighten…

…the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
Collection – Brush & Spatula

Record…

…the patient's name, date of birth and/or SH MRN on the vial.

…the patient’s name, date of birth, demographic information and medical history on the Anatomic Pathology Requisition (LAB477) or print the order from your EMR.

Note: Ensure the specimen vial is labelled with two patient identifiers. Specimens not appropriately labeled with two patient identifiers will be rejected, requiring the specimen to be recollected.
Collection – Brush & Spatula

Place…

…the vial and order/requisition (or color coded slip for EPIC or eSHare users) in an ambient specimen bag for transport to the laboratory.
Collection – Broom-like Device

Obtain…

...an adequate sampling from the cervix using a broom-like device. If desired, use lukewarm water to warm and lubricate the speculum. Water-soluble gel lubricant sparingly applied to the posterior blade of the speculum can be used if necessary.¹ Insert the central bristles of the broom into the endocervical canal deep enough to allow the shorter bristles to fully contact the ectocervix. Push gently, and rotate the broom in a clockwise direction five times.

¹ Cervicovaginal Cytology Based on the Papanicolaou Technique; Approved Guideline – Third Edition (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute GP15-A3).
Collection – Broom-like Device

Rinse...

...the broom as quickly as possible in the PreservCyt solution vial by pushing the broom into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart. As a final step, swirl the broom vigorously to further release material. Discard the collection device.
Collection – Broom-like Device

Tighten…

...the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
Collection – Brush & Spatula

Record...
...the patient's name, date of birth and/or SH MRN on the vial.

...the patient’s name, date of birth, demographic information and medical history on the Anatomic Pathology Requisition (LAB477) or print the order from your EMR.

Note: Ensure the specimen vial is labelled with two patient identifiers. Specimens not appropriately labeled with two patient identifiers will be rejected, requiring the specimen to be recollected.
Place…

…the vial and order/requisition (or color coded slip for EPIC or eSHare users) in an ambient specimen bag for transport to the laboratory.
Resources

Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory
Phone: 616.774.7721
Fax: 616.774.5159
Email: LaboratoryServices@spectrumhealth.org

Specimen Collection Catalog:
http://spectrumhealth.testcatalog.org/
Resources

Carly Cordova
Diagnostic Sales Specialist
Carly.Cordova@hologic.com
www.hologic.com

Specimen Collection:
http://www.thinprep.com/hcp/specimen_collection.html