Health PEI

Guide to Laboratory Services

How to Collect a 24 Hour Urine Specimen

CAUTION: The bottle may contain a preservative in the form of a liquid/powder which may burn your skin. DO NOT remove the preservative from the bottle. Keep the bottle upright so it does not spill. Urinate (pee) into a clean dry plastic container and transfer the urine to the collection bottle. Do not splash when pouring urine into the bottle.

KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN. IF LIQUID IN BOTTLE IS SPLASHED OR SPILLED, WASH SPILL IMMEDIATELY WITH WATER.

IMPORTANT: TO ENSURE ACCURATE TEST RESULTS, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

- Throw out your first morning urine sample. Make sure your bladder has been completely emptied. Write this time and date on the collection bottle label. This is the **START TIME**.
- Begin collecting urine samples in the bottle the **next** time you urinate (pee). Urinate into a clean dry plastic container and transfer the urine to the bottle.
- Save all the urine from each time you urinate for the complete 24 hour period. Store in fridge.
- Collect the **last** urine sample exactly 24 hours after your **START TIME**. Try to collect a urine sample at this time even if you do not feel the urge to urinate. Write this time and date on the collection bottle label. This is the FINISH TIME.
- If you try to urinate at the **FINISH TIME** but cannot produce any urine, this is still an acceptable 24 hour urine sample. Write this as the finish time on the label.

EXAMPLE:

First Sample = 7:00 a.m. \rightarrow throw out Write time and date on label beside START TIME.



Second Sample → Collect and pour entire urine sample into the bottle given to you by the laboratory.



Continue collecting and saving all urine samples for the complete 24 hour period.

Last Sample = Next day at 7:00 a.m. \rightarrow this is the last urine sample. Collect and pour into the bottle. Write the time and date on the label beside FINISH TIME.



- Put the bottle in a plastic bag and keep in a cool dark place (example: refrigerator) during the time you are collecting until you bring it to the laboratory.
- Clearly label the bottle with your **NAME** and **Provincial Health Card Number** (as they appear on your Health Card) and the START and FINISH date and times.
- Promptly bring the bottle and requisition to the laboratory. Hand both of them to one of the laboratory staff; do not just leave them on the counter.

NOTE: If one of the urine samples is thrown out by mistake and not added to the bottle, the test must be started over.

Omni-Assistant **DOC ID: 6567**

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SECTION: D90

Revised: 2014.09.15