



Antibiotic transport medium
Suitable for the transport of all viable tissues.

- Genetics (POC, etc.)
- Tissue culture
- Tissue tumour markers (lymph nodes, etc.)



Aptima urine tube

- Chlamydia trachomatis
- Neisseria gonorrhoeae



Blood culture bottles

- ADULTS - take 16-20mL of blood on each occasion and divide evenly into 2 adult culture bottles (aerobic and anaerobic).
- CHILDREN - take 1-3mL of blood on each occasion and place in a paediatric blood culture bottle.

If difficulty is experienced in obtaining blood from some patients, the paediatric blood culture bottle will suffice for adults.



Faeces container
Liquid stools should be examined promptly - please contact the laboratory to arrange pickup. Formed and semi-formed stools should be received by the laboratory within two hours of collection.



Histology specimen container
Routine histology tissue and biopsy specimens are placed into 10% formalin for fixation and submitted to the laboratory for paraffin processing.



Seminal fluid collection
Collect specimen into a sterile container. This sample needs to reach the laboratory within 2hrs.



Skin scrapings containers
Superficial mycoses may infect skin, hair and nails. Skin scrapings from the active edge of the lesion and scrapings from nails, together with clippings of nails and hair, may be placed in a sterile container.

The paper envelope may also be used for collecting skin scrapings.

If the lesion is exuding material and may be painful to scrape, a swab may be collected as an alternative. Use a dry swab previously moistened with saline to swab the lesion. Place the swab in a container without transport medium.



Synovial fluid collection kit

1. Crystals, rheumatoid factor latex, gram stain and culture. Several mL in a sterile screw top (urine) container.
2. Cell count and differential. 1-2mL in lithium heparin (green top) tube to prevent specimen clotting.
3. Protein, albumin and glucose. 1-2mL in a EDTA (lavender top) tube.



Urine drug screen collection kit
For details of use and Chain-of-Custody documentation requirements, see Drug Screening section (5.4) in Biochemistry Preface of the Reference Manual.



Urine collection bottles

- Used for timed urine collections. Patient instructions are written on the bottle.
- The bottle should be refrigerated between collections.
- Certain collections may need preservative (Check A-Z test listing of Reference Manual).

Monolayer cytology kit
After preparing a conventional Pap smear, rinse the Cervex brush or preferred collection device thoroughly in the cell preserving solution. Transport the Pap smear in slide carrier and the labelled cell preserving solution to the laboratory.



Single-use Pap smear kits
Three separate kits available: Cervex brush, Cytobrush and Combination.



Cervex brush Pap smear test kit



Cytobrush Pap smear test kit



Combination Pap smear test kit

BIOPBLADE™
The sterile, single-use BIOPBLADE™ is a flexible scalpel used for cutaneous surgery, including: shave biopsy, saucerisation of flat lesions and levelling of pedunculated lesions. The unique design of the BIOPBLADE™ incorporates a comfortable and protective 'Fingerguard' in addition to the flexible super sharp blade. This flexibility allows the blade to be positioned at the correct angle for the intended procedure.



Skin punch biopsy devices

Available in several sizes:

- Punch Biopsy with internal plunger available in 2, 3 and 4mm
- Punch Biopsy without plunger available in 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8mm.



2mm Punch Biopsy with internal plunger



2mm Punch Biopsy without plunger



Bacteriology transport swab

- May be left overnight at room temperature except where gonorrhoea or anaerobic infection is suspected. In these cases, please contact the laboratory to arrange prompt pickup.



Viral culture transport swab

- May be left overnight refrigerated.
- Used for routine virology.



Flocked swab (Dry flexible swab)

- Used for PCR and respiratory viruses.
- Store at room temperature before and after collection.



Nasopharyngeal swab (Dry swab)

- Store at room temperature before and after collection.
- May be left overnight refrigerated.



Aptima Chlamydia trachomatis/Neisseria gonorrhoeae swab for molecular testing

- Store at room temperature before and after collection.

BLOOD COLLECTION TUBES

1 Sodium citrate tube (Pale blue top)

- Coagulation studies:
- Prothrombin time
 - Thrombophilia tests
 - Factor assays etc.
 - INR
 - APTT
 - D-Dimer
 - Fibrinogen

2 Serum separation tube (SST) (Yellow plastic top)

After clotting, the tube should be centrifuged for 10 minutes and may then be left refrigerated overnight.

- Endocrinology tests (Thyroid function tests, FSH, LH, etc.)
- E/LFT: including urea, glucose, electrolytes, liver function tests, cholesterol, triglycerides (lipids)
- Autoantibodies (Including antisperm antibodies)
- Microbial, parasitic and viral serology (hepatitis serology, rubella antibodies, etc.)
- Pregnancy tests
- Paul-Bunnell test
- Tumour markers
- Iron studies/B12

3 Plain tube (Red top)

- All drug assays
- Vitamin D

4 Trace metal tube (Navy top)

Must be centrifuged immediately for 10 minutes.

- Zinc
- Selenium
- Aluminium

5 Lithium heparin tube (Green top, orange top)

- Used for a wide variety of tests covering biochemistry, haematology and genetics
- Heavy metals screens
- Chromosome analysis

6 Blood Bank EDTA tube (Pink top)

- Blood group
- Rh antibodies
- Crossmatch (+ EDTA lavender top)
- Group & hold serum (+ EDTA lavender top)
- HLA B27 testing
- Genetics (some)

7 EDTA tube (Lavender top)

- Full blood count: including haemoglobin, white cell count, platelet count
- Red cell folate
- Hb EPP
- ACTH
- Hb A1C
- ESR

8 ESR tube

- ESR

9 Fluoride oxalate tube (Grey top)

- Blood alcohol
- Lactate studies
- Blood glucose (if a delay in cell separation is unavoidable)

10 Acid citrate dextrose - ACD tube (Yellow rubber top)

- HLA tissue typing
- Leukaemia marker studies
- Lymphocyte studies
- Lymphocyte subset analysis
- HIV viral load

ORDER OF DRAW

Vacutainer & Syringe Method	
1. Blood culture bottles	
2. Pale blue top (Sodium citrate)**	
3. Tubes without chemical additive (SST, Red top, Navy top)	
4. Green top (Lithium heparin)	
5. Pink top/Lavender top (EDTA)	
6. ESR (if required)	
7. Grey top (Fluoride oxalate)	
8. Yellow top (ACD - Acid citrate dextrose)	

** If the citrate tube is the only tube to be drawn (or if it is the first tube to be drawn), this tube is acceptable for routine coagulation testing (APTT and PT/INR). For special coagulation testing (e.g. Factor VIII and Heparin Therapy) the citrate tube should not be the first tube drawn. Use of a plain 'discard' tube may be considered in this situation.

Specimen Labelling Requirements

Please ensure all request forms and specimens have correct patient details. Our minimum requirements are:

- Surname • Given Names • Date of Birth •
- Date and time of collection •

Please understand that incorrect or insufficient labelling can necessitate a recollection.

All tubes MUST be signed by patient or collector to confirm patient identity.

BRISBANE & SURROUNDING AREAS

Central Laboratory - Brisbane	(07) 3121 4444
Greenslopes Stat Laboratory - Greenslopes	(07) 3338 9100
North West Stat Laboratory - Everton Park	(07) 3353 0382
St Andrew's Stat Laboratory - Spring Hill	(07) 3832 6011
Wesley Stat Laboratory - Auchenflower	(07) 3371 9462

BUNDABERG

Bundaberg Laboratory	(07) 4152 8411
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CAIRNS

Cairns Laboratory	(07) 4051 8944
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CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

Emerald Laboratory	(07) 4982 0306
Gladstone Laboratory	(07) 4829 5000
Rockhampton Laboratory	(07) 4921 2155

GOLD COAST, TUGUN & NORTHERN RIVERS

Ballina Laboratory	(02) 6686 6424
Pindara Stat Laboratory	(07) 5510 0400
Southport Laboratory	(07) 5668 4444
Tugun Laboratory	(07) 5631 3022

IPSWICH, DARLING DOWNS & GRANITE BELT

Ipswich Laboratory	(07) 3413 3400
Toowoomba Stat Laboratory	(07) 4638 9149

KINGAROY

Kingaroy Laboratory	(07) 4162 1499
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MACKAY

Mackay Laboratory	(07) 4951 2999
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REDCLIFFE

Redcliffe Laboratory	(07) 3049 4444
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SUNSHINE COAST & GYMPIE

Buderim Laboratory	(07) 5441 0200
Gympie Laboratory	(07) 5441 0200
Noosa Stat Laboratory	(07) 5455 9400

TOWNSVILLE

Townsville Laboratory	(07) 4795 6400
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Specimen Collection Guide