

## Sterile Collection of Semen for Microbiological Analysis

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author:	Holton, Tina	Owner:	·-	Dawkins, Andrew	

Please follow instructions below as microbiological contamination from non-semen sources (e.g. commensal organisms from the skin) must be avoided.

## **COLLECTION OF THE SAMPLE**

- 1. Ideally, specimens should be produced at 76 Wimpole Street. Alternatively, specimens may be produced at home.
- 2. Ideally patients should not have had sex or masturbated for 48 hours before collecting the sample.
- 3. Prior to sample production, pass urine.
- 4. Wash hands and penis with soap to reduce the risk of contamination of the specimen with commensal organisms from the skin. Rinse away the soap.
- 5. Dry hands and penis with a fresh disposable towel.
- 6. Collect the sample by masturbation, collecting the entire specimen directly into the sterile container provided. No other sample container is acceptable.
- 7. Ensure your name, date of birth and time of production is written on the container label.

## **DELIVERY OF THE SAMPLE**

Hand the sample with the request/referral form to a member of staff in the Andrology office at The Doctors Laboratory.

## **UNLABELLED SPECIMEN POTS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED**

If you have any difficulties associated with the collection and delivery of your sample please contact the laboratory on 020 7025 7940.