

The specimen should be collected in such a way as to avoid contamination with micro flora that is indigenous to the skin and mucus membranes. The process of selection, collection and transport of the specimen are critical to identification of the causative agent. Specimens must be submitted within 30 minutes of collection at room temperature or within 8 hours when refrigerated. If the specimen will be longer than 30 minutes in transit, the specimen must be placed in a transport kit supplied by the laboratory. Specimens collected in a transport tube should be received in that lab within 72 hours of collection.

Wash hands with soap.

Remove towelettes. Do not remove jar from package. Cleanse perineal area with all towelettes.

Females - Separate folds of urinary opening with thumb and forefinger and clean inside with towelettes, using downward strokes only; keep separated during urination.

Males - Clean head of penis.

Remove container from package. DO NOT TOUCH INSIDE OF CONTAINER.

Remove cap from container and place upside down on clean surface. DO NOT TOUCH INSIDE OF CAP.

Begin urination into toilet. As urination continues, bring container into stream. Fill container only half way.

Screw cap on container.

The specimen is then labeled with the patient's name, time and date of collection.

The specimen and requisition are placed inside a double pocket specimen bag and taken to the laboratory within 30 minutes of collection or refrigerated for up to 8 hours.