

CYTOPATHOLOGY COLLECTION

The preferred methods for collection of a pap smear from the cervical, endocervical, and vaginal areas of the female genital tract.

Labeling

Thin Prep specimens – label the vial with 2 unique identifiers, including the patient's full last name, first name and one other identifier, e.g. date of birth or patient ID number. The name on the slide and the requisition must match for laboratory acceptance.

ThinPrep Collection

Brush/Spatula collection

1. Take cervical smear by rotating the cervical scraper around ectocervix with special emphasis on the squamo-columnar junction.
2. Rinse immediately by vigorously swirling the spatula 10 times in the vial of fixative.
3. Take endocervical smear by gently inserting the cytology brush into endocervical canal, past the squamo-columnar junction. Rotate cytology brush one half turn (180°).
4. Gently remove cytology brush without touching vaginal surfaces.
5. Rinse immediately by vigorously swirling the brush 10 times in the vial of fixative while pressing it against the sides of the vial to dislodge material.
6. Cap vial so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
7. Label the vial with the patient's last name, first name and another identifier, e.g. DOB
8. Place vial in plastic zip locked bag with requisition and send to the laboratory. (See attached pictorial instructions.)

Broom Collection

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.
2. Rinse the broom as quickly as possible into 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.
3. Cap vial so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.
4. Label the vial with the patient's last name, first name and another identifier, e.g. DOB
5. Place vial in plastic zip locked bag with requisition and send to the laboratory. (See attached pictorial instructions.)