Urine Microscopy & Culture

Alfred Pathology Service

Patient Instructions

Mid-Stream Urine (MSU)

This is a urine test that requires clean urine specimen- a mid-stream urine sample (not containing the beginning or the end of the urine stream).

Equipment provided for this test

- 50ml sterile specimen container(s)
- Sterile wipe(s)

Prior to commencing this test

- Apply ID labels if provided or write your full name (first, middle & surname), date of birth on the container.
- Male Patients: The foreskin should be gently retracted and the glans cleaned with provided sterile water wipe. Do not use soap or disinfectants.
- Female Patients: The labia must be separated and cleaned with provided sterile water wipe from front to back.
- Do not touch the inside of the lid or container.

Collection Instructions

1. Open the lid of the sterile specimen container and begin to pass urine into the toilet. When the stream is well established obtain 10-20 mL in a container, then finish passing urine into the toilet.
2. Close the container by screwing the lid on tightly ensuring it is straight. Place the container in the specimen bag provided.
3. Deliver the specimen to collection center as soon as possible. If you are unable to deliver the specimen within two hours, refrigerate until delivery.

Specimens will not be accepted if not collected in appropriate (pathology provided) container.

If there is a problem during the collection, a replacement container / kit can be provided.

Contact numbers and service hours for collection centers are on the back of your pathology request slip.