

Conventional Pap smea	r collection procedure
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Required Specimen Type	Exocervical, Endocervical
Medical Supplies	 Frosted end glass slide Spatula Endocervical brush Broom like device Cytology Fixative spray Pap slide container Pathology requisition: RR-10-RQ-001
General Guidelines	 All specimens must include a double identification (first and last name of the patient and date of birth or medicare number). The use of gloves is required when handling all biological specimens. A valid requisition must include the following information: First and last name of the patient, date of birth or medicare number and gender. Date and time of specimen collection and signature of collector. Physician's full name, signature and license number (or another qualified prescriber). Any relevant clinical information. Requested tests.
Patient Preparation	 Patient should refrain from intercourse, using tampons, intravaginal medication or douches for 48 hours prior to test. The sample should not be taken during heavy menstruation.
Specimen Collection Instructions	 Print the patient's full name and date of birth on the frosted end of the slide using a lead pencil. Insert speculum, which may be moistened with lukewarm water. (Use lubricant sparingly if necessary). Identify the transformation zone and sample the cervix as follows: If squamocolumnar junction is visible. Using the contoured end of the spatula rotate 360 degrees around the entire exocervix while maintaining tight contact with the exocervical surface. Spread the sample evenly over the labeled slide with a single smooth stroke. Fix immediately to avoid the air-drying artefact. Spray should be kept 15-20 cm away from the slide. If squamocolumnar junction is not visible: Using the elongated end of the spatula rotate 360 degrees once to obtain sample around the entire exocervix while maintaining tight contact with the exocervical surface. Leave material on the spatula while collecting the endocervical sample. Insert endocervical brush into the cervix until the bottom-most fibers are exposed and rotate slowly 180 degrees. Do not over rotate. First the spread the sample from the spatula horizontally on one side of the slide. Then roll the brush on the other side of the slide by twirling the handle. Fix immediately to avoid the air-drying artefact. Spray should be kept 15-20 cm away form the slide. Place slide in the pap slide container and put the container in the biohazard bag, with the requisition in the side pocket of the bag. If using a broom: Insert the central bristles of the broom into the endocervical canal deep enough to allow the shorter bristles to fully contact the exocervix. Push gently; rotate the broom in a clockwise direction 5 times.



Spread sample onto the slide using both sides of the brush.

 Fix immediately to avoid the air-drying artefact. Spray should be kept 15-20 cm away form the slide.

 Place slide in the pap slide container and put the container in the biohazard bag, with the requisition in the side pocket of the bag.

Additional Information

Paginal smear specimens are collected by scraping the lateral portion of the vagina near the cervix.

Remove excess mucus or other discharge present before taking the sample.

Specimen Conservation and Stability

Room temperature: Indefinitely when slide is fixed.