

Transferring Urine Specimens for NAAT Testing to Abbott Tubes at Sandyford Services

1. Introduction

Urine specimens for CT/GC NAAT testing must be transferred into the correct Abbott tubes prior to transporting to the Virus Laboratory. The Abbott tubes are supplied to Sandyford by the Virus laboratory and come as an Abbott multicollect specimen collection kit. This kit contains one Abbott tube which contains transport buffer (see Microbiology COSHH risk assessment Public folders 02: RA002-Abbott NAAT swab solution) one plastic pipette and a swab. For urine collection the swab is not required.

2. Purpose and scope

Type of specimen: First void or withheld urine.

This protocol describes the process of urine transfer to Abbott tubes.

3. Responsibility

The Floor Nurse on duty is responsible for this procedure and for ensuring it is followed. All staff involved with handling specimens must abide by this procedure.

4. Documentation

Refer also to:

- Microbiology Laboratory safety manual H&SP500v6 (located in Sandyford lab).
- Microbiology COSHH Risk assessment form Ref No: Public folders: 02 RA002-Abbott NAAT swab solution).
- Microbiology COSHH Risk Assessment form Ref No: Public folders: 02 R507v6 Handling and culturing specimens

5. Procedure

5.1 Urine is collected from the patient into a NASH labelled plain universal container (white top), placed into a specimen bag and returned to the clinical room by the patient.

Place urine and tube into a rack, which sits on a tray.

5.2 From the Abbott pack, remove the plastic pipette and draw up urine from the universal. Transfer urine to the Abbott tube and fill up to the **level of the “square window”**. **IT IS IMPORTANT NOT TO OVERFILL THE TUBE.**

5.3 Add: Note if Abbott tube is crystallised do not use - discard and open a new one.

5.4 There are minimum and maximum markings on the side of the tube. Label the Abbott tube and NAAT request form with NASH labels ensuring they all match with the urine container

Discard pipette into orange clinical waste bag.

Replace cap on Abbott tube and tighten then place into a specimen bag with a correctly labelled and completed NAAT request form.

Final check: make sure form and tube NASH labels match, and check form has been dated and ticked correctly.

Place in specimen tray for onward transport to Virus Laboratory.

Tighten urine universal cap and discard into orange clinical waste bag.

Clean tray and rack by squirting 10% chemgene, leave for 30 seconds and wipe dry.

5.5 Safety and COSHH

- PPE : Wear nitrile gloves
- COSHH : Urine may contain biological organisms see Microbiology risk assessment “**Handling and culturing specimens**” **R507v6 on public folders 02**
- COSHH : Abbott tube contains transport buffer which is harmful and irritant
- **See full risk assessment on Microbiology public folders 02 (RA002-Abbott NAAT swab solution)**
- Avoid splashing of urine at all times.
- Spray racks and trays on a regular basis with 10% chemgene disinfectant

5.6 Spillages

- Put on disposable nitrile gloves and apron
- Blot with paper towels and squirt 10% chemgene liberally over the contaminated area and allow to act for 30 seconds before wiping up with paper towels.
- Dispose of towels into clinical waste bin.