



SPUTUM

Synonym(s):

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Lab Section Category	Cytology – Non-gynaecological Cytology Click here to find out more about the write-up (/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/cytology.aspx).
Specimen Required	Instruct patient to cough deeply ("from the diaphragm") upon awakening and expectorate all sputum into a clean container. Submit early morning deep-cough sputum, not saliva immediately to the Lab. Collect separate specimens on 3 consecutive mornings. Do not pool specimens. Send specimens fresh within one hour of collection. Refrigeration beyond 24 hours is not recommended as pathogenic organism may multiply. A cytology request form that is completely and properly filled up - see the request form (/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/cytology.aspx#NGYTRF)for details.
Turnaround Time	90 % of cases reported within 2 working days and 100% of cases reported within 7 working days
Day(s) Test Set up	Daily

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