

Outpatient Instructions for Semen Collection:

Items Provided: Clean wide-mouth screw-top plastic or glass jar.

NOTE:

- Semen analysis is performed in the outpatient lab at Memorial Hospital in Easton. Monday –Thursday before 11:00am.
- The complete analysis involves several hours of work; therefore specimens should be delivered to the lab in the morning.
- Semen is best collected by masturbation after a three (3) day period of abstinence from intercourse or masturbation. The sample may be collected at home or in a bathroom close to the lab.
- Do not abstain more than four (4) days because this diminishes the quality of the semen and the motility of the sperm. However, if your doctor has given you specific instructions in this regard, his orders should be followed.
- Coitus interruptus (early withdrawal during intercourse) is unacceptable. The first ejaculate, that contains the majority of spermatozoa, may be lost.
- The semen must be ejaculated into the clean, dry, wide-mouth jar given to you by the laboratory or your doctor to avoid introducing trace amounts of detergent or other harmful contaminants into the specimen.
- A condom is unacceptable because many contain a spermicide, and it is impossible to retrieve the entire sample for analysis.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do not use any lubricant during collection.
2. After ejaculating the entire specimen into the container, replace the lid and secure it tightly.
3. Wash hands thoroughly, dry.
4. Label the container with your name and the time of collection.
5. If the specimen is collected away from the lab, bring it in to the lab as quickly as possible and keep close to body temperature by placing the jar inside your shirt during transport.
6. The specimen **must** be received in the lab within **45 minutes** of collection.
7. Patients collecting semen samples for fertility testing are required to fill out a questionnaire.

INSURANCE:

If the patient's insurance has the dedicated lab of Lab Corp, the patient can still get the semen analysis done at Memorial Hospital as Lab Corp does not do this test. Should the patient receive a bill from his insurance company, he should call insurance company and tell them Lab Corp does not do this test and ask to have the claim re-processed and paid.