

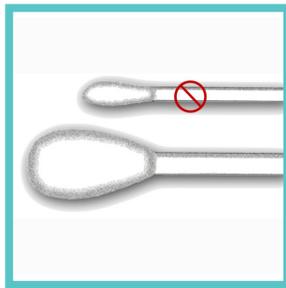
SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Anal Cytology

Saline cleansing and moistening must be performed before collection.

Do not use gel lubricant in this procedure. Lubricant will severely compromise the specimen.

The anus should be inspected for the presence of gross lesions (warts, tags, masses, etc.). Patients with gross lesions are at higher risk for positive cytology than those with normal visual exams. Using a heavily saline moistened, cotton-tipped rectal swab, the anal opening is gently cleansed, carefully removing interfering elements. The moistened swab also lubricates the anus to facilitate cellular collections. Cleansing is accomplished by inserting a moistened swab for ten seconds without twisting, then repeating with a second moistened swab. Excessively vigorous swabbing during the cleansing and moistening steps will unwantingly remove cells before actual collection begins.

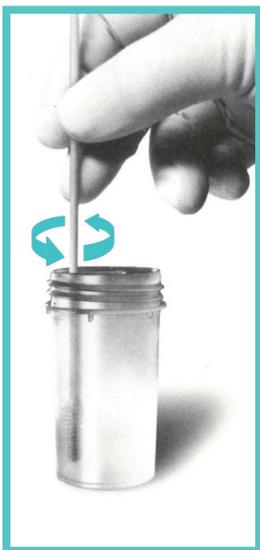


A rectal swab is the preferred instrument over a standard cotton swab for saline cleansing and moistening.



These are the best instruments for sampling the anorectal junction.

Specimen Collection:



A Dacron® swab or cytobrush, if tolerated by the patient, are the best collection devices for anal cytology.

- 1) If using the Dacron® swab, moisten the swab with water. Do not use lubricant.
- 2) The Dacron® swab or cytobrush should be inserted approximately 1.5 to 2 inches into the anal canal. It is important to use Dacron® and not a cotton swab, as cells tend to cling to cotton and do not release easily into cytology collection fluids. Once inserted deep enough into the anus (necessary in order to collect both rectal columnar and anal squamous cells) the swab or brush should be pulled out, applying some pressure to the wall of the anus, rotating the swab or brush in a spiral motion along the way.
- 3) Immediately after collection, all instruments employed should be immediately and vigorously rinsed into a single vial of cytology fixative, labeled with the patient name and a unique 2nd identifier, then designated "Anal Cytology Collection".