

SPUTUM

PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

It is important to follow these instructions carefully to ensure your test results are accurate.

Preparation:

Obtain the container and specimen bag from the laboratory collection room.
Collect sputum first thing in the morning for the best results.
If three specimens are required, collect one specimen each morning on three separate days.

Collection Procedure:

1. Cough up sputum (phlegm) directly into the container provided.
2. A correct specimen comes from your chest or lungs, not just saliva from your mouth.
3. Screw the lid on tightly.
4. Clearly label the container with your name, date of birth, and the date and time of collection
5. Place in the specimen bag provided.
6. Return to the nearest laboratory as soon as possible. If you cannot deliver it immediately, store it in a cool place until you can.

Ensure a copy of the request form is with each specimen.
Check your sample is labelled with your full name and date of birth.

Your results can only be obtained from the requesting doctor

Please refer to our website for additional information
www.pathlab.co.nz

or alternatively contact
07 858 0795