



MATERIALS PROVIDED

Empty Specimen Container | Nail Specimen Bag

Pre-filled 10% Formalin Filled Specimen Container | Biohazard Bag with Pocket and Absorbent Pad

CLINICAL PROCEDURE

1. Wear appropriate PPE and follow all facility guidelines.
2. Label bag or container with patient name, date of birth, and source site.
3. If Nail PCR is requested:
 - a. Use thoroughly cleaned instruments for specimen collection (sterile or alcohol cleaned).
 - b. Wipe the toe and nail with moist gauze dipped in saline or distilled water to remove dirt and dust.
 - c. Remove any artificial nails or nail polish (if present).
 - d. Clip nails onto clean paper and transfer to collection container (dry nail bag).
4. Place collected nail(s) into nail specimen bag or container. Dry nail specimens (clippings) should be submitted in a nail bag or empty plastic jar. However, nails with any soft tissue or clot attached should be submitted in formalin jars to preserve the soft tissue component from drying out. 10% formalin contains formaldehyde which is: toxic by swallowing/inhalation, irritating to eyes/respiratory system/skin, causes sensitization, damage to eyes, and may cause cancer. Use in a well ventilated area.
5. Place container or specimen bag into biohazard bag. Multiple bags or containers from the same patient can be submitted in the same biohazard bag.
6. Place paper copies of face-sheets and requisitions into pouch on biohazard bag.
7. Please verify that Patient Name and Birthdate (or other second unique identifier, such as patient id#) on req match those on the specimen container.
8. Place completed biohazard bag into provided laboratory box/pack for shipping/pickup.
9. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.
10. Place laboratory box/pack in the designated area for shipping/pickup.
11. If shipping/pickup is needed and not already scheduled, please call the lab.