Urine cytology (x three)

Patient information

What is urine cytology?
Urine cytology is the examination of cells in urine under a microscope. The pathologist looks at cells collected from a urine specimen, to see how they look and function. The test commonly checks for infection, inflammatory disease of the urinary tract, cancer, or precancerous conditions.

Why do I need urine cytology?
Your doctor may order a urine cytology exam if you have any of these symptoms:
• unexplained blood in your urine
• burning during urination
• persistent pain during urination
• difficulties with passing urine.

The test also monitors patients who have had urinary tract infections or cancer or who are at high risk for bladder cancer. It can also detect a variety of viral diseases.

What is the procedure for urine cytology?
1. You will be given three sterile 50mls yellow top urine jars
2. Your doctor has requested that you provide three mid-morning, midstream urine samples on three consecutive days
3. The first urine sample of the day is unsuitable for this test and should be thrown out
4. Therefore, provide a urine sample sometime in mid-morning (meaning, between breakfast and lunch)
5. Ensure you are well hydrated.

What is midstream urine sample?
• Wash your hands and ideally your genitals as well
• Women—hold open the entrance to the vagina (your labia)
• Men—pull back your foreskin
• Label your name, address and date of birth and container one, two and three
• Open yellow top container
• Pass some urine into the toilet. Then, without stopping the flow of urine, catch some urine in the yellow (sterile) container. Once you have enough urine in the container, finish off passing the rest of your urine into the toilet.
• Screw top tightly onto container. Label the jar with your name, DOB and date/time of collection
• Refrigerate the sample until three have been collected
• Take three containers to doctors or pathology for analysis.

What happens in the laboratory?
A pathologist will analyse the cells under a microscope to see if there are any abnormalities. The pathologist will send the results of your urine cytology test to your doctor, who will report the results to you.

If you have any concerns please call:
5470 6700