

CONWAY MEDICAL CENTER

300 Singleton Ridge Rd
Conway, S.C. 29526
Laboratory: (843) 347-8130

PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS – COLLECTION OF AFB CULTURES

1. **PLEASE USE STERILE CUPS TO COLLECT AFB SPECIMENS. These can be obtained from the lab prior to collection.**
2. You must go through registration prior to sample delivery to the lab. Please enter at the Patient Services Entrance. Be sure to share with the staff that you have already collected the sample. If your physician has instructed you to bring daily samples over a designated period of time, be sure to share that with the registration clerk to prevent your having to go through the entire process each day. If registered properly, samples can be brought directly to the Main Laboratory.
3. **YOU MUST HAVE A PHYSICIAN ORDER WITH YOU.** The sample will not be accepted if the physician order is not presented and/or the order is incomplete. The following are the order requirements:
 1. Legible physician name, address, telephone number AND fax number.
 2. Legible signature
 3. Current date (orders over 30 days old will not be accepted)
 4. Test(s) name ordered
 5. Diagnosis (must be medically necessary).

COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Use the provided container. You may want to place your name, the date and time of collection on the container prior to collection. Without this information, the sample will not be accepted.**
2. **Remove any wrapping from the container.**
3. **Open the top of the container so that the specimen will go directly into the sterile cup.**
4. **Cough deeply into the container. Sputum samples should be a deep cough from the lungs, not saliva.**
5. **Repeat step 4 and 5 until you have about 5 mls.**
6. **In the collection of the series of three samples, only one has to be first morning collection.**
7. **Make sure that the lid is closed tightly on the cup to prevent leakage, and That the time, date of collection and your name is written legible on the cup.**
8. **Keep samples refrigerated until they can be brought to the lab for processing.**

I have read and followed the above collection instructions:

Patient or Guardian Signature

Date