

### Urinalysis, Urine Cultures, and Random Urine Analysis:

Barnes-Jewish Hospital Laboratory employs a VACUTAINER® system which eliminates the need to submit the entire collection cup thereby preventing the risk of handling spilled or leaking specimens. A sterile cup with an incorporated cannula is used to collect the specimen and the appropriate VACUTAINER® tube is filled, labeled, and sent to the laboratory.

#### • *Urinalysis and Urine Culture:*

- Use the sterile "Urine Complete Cup Kit" which is packaged in a sealed plastic bag. The kit includes a sterile collection cup with the cannula incorporated in the lid, Castile soap towelettes, a grey-top VACUTAINER® tube with a yellow label for the urine culture (this tube contains a stabilizer to maintain optimal specimen integrity), and a yellow/red top tube containing a preservative for urinalysis. If both urine culture and urinalysis are requested either as individual tests or reflex tests, use the sterile collection kit; fill the grey top tube for the culture and the yellow/red top tube for the urinalysis. A grey-top tube can never be used for urinalysis.
- Urinalysis storage guidelines: Specimens should be received in the laboratory within 2 hours of collection. Specimens >24 hours old will not be tested.
- Urine culture storage guidelines: If specimen is unpreserved and at ambient temperature, it should be received in the laboratory within 2 hours of collection; if specimen is preserved, or unpreserved and refrigerated, the specimen should be received in the laboratory within 24 hours of collection.

### Directions for Clean-Catch (Midstream) Collection:

#### • *Males*

Instruct patient to collect specimen as follows:

1. Withdraw foreskin if uncircumcised.
2. Clean glans with sterile, soap towelette or equivalent beginning at urethra and working away.
3. Begin urinating and pass first portion into toilet, mid-portion into sterile collection cup, and the rest again into toilet.

#### • *Females*

Instruct patient to collect specimen as follows:

1. Sit on toilet and then separate labia minora manually.
2. Cleanse urethral meatus and surrounding areas with sterile, soap towelette.
3. Begin urinating and pass first portion into toilet, mid-portion into sterile collection cup, and the rest again into toilet.

### 24-Hour and Timed Urine Collections:

Containers for 24-hour and other timed urine specimens may contain an additive for specific testing. Additive containers may be prepared with any 1 of the following additives: the container will be labeled as such and color-coded.

Label Code	Additive	Expiration Date
Gold	5g Sodium Carbonate	Not applicable
White	25 mL 50% Acetic Acid	Stamped on Container
Pink	10 g Boric Acid	Not applicable
Green	25 mL 6N HCL	Stamped on container

- In the case of 24-hour and other timer urine specimens, the entire collection is required to be submitted. Large specimen bags are provided for the safe transportation of these specimens. Directions for 24-hour collection are printed on a label affixed to the container.