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## NONGYNECOLOGICAL PROCEDURE UROLOGIC SPECIMENS

### (Voided/Catheterized Urine, Bladder Washing/Ureteral Washing)

#### I. Purpose

Urine is commonly evaluated cytologically for the presence of malignant cells in the detection of urologic malignancies. Urine may also be evaluated cytologically in the detection and characterization of some renal diseases. Method of specimen collection as well as time of collection will effect the cytologic evaluation in many instances.

#### II. Specimen

##### General Information for all Specimens

##### *For Specimens Processed for Cytology (Non-Gynecological Specimens):*

Add 70% alcohol, as soon as possible, in a volume equal to the specimen collected. Label each container with the patient name, site source and the requisition peel-off number. Submit the specimen along with the completed Heartland Pathology Consultants requisition at room temperature.

##### *For Specimens Processed for Microbiology or Clinical Analysis:*

Specimens intended for culture must be collected in a sterile container or in sterile saline (*without 70% alcohol or 10% neutral buffered formalin*) and *split* from the main Non-Gynecological specimen prior to transport with the proper requisition for microbiology culture or clinical testing. Consult the clinical lab test catalog for specific specimen requirements.

#### A. Voided/Catheterized Urine

##### 1. Indications

Detection and characterization of malignant cells and other urologic abnormalities in symptomatic (usually hematuria) patients; screening for malignancy in selected individuals at high risk for the development of urologic malignancy; detection and characterization of some non-neoplastic renal diseases in symptomatic (usually hematuria) patients.

##### 2. Specimen Required

50 mL of an appropriately collected voided or catheterized urine specimen.

3. **Supplies**

Clean collection container of appropriate size, standard catheterization equipment (for catheterized urine) and fixative (70% alcohol).

4. **Collection Procedure**

- a. **Patient Preparation:** For purposes of obtaining the greatest yield of diagnostic material, a second morning voided urine specimen should be obtained, if possible. A midstream, clean catch specimen is recommended to avoid vaginal contamination in female patients. A midstream specimen, not necessarily clean catch, is recommended for male patients. If the patient must be catheterized to obtain the specimen, this should be noted on the specimen requisition as catheterization can lead to artifacts that may be misinterpreted without the knowledge that the specimen was catheterized.
- b. Add 70% alcohol as soon as possible in a volume equal to the specimen collected. Label each container with the patient name, site source and requisition peel-off number.
- c. **STORAGE:** Submit the specimen at room temperature along with the completed HPC requisition and copies of insurance card(s).

**B. Other Urologic Specimens (Bladder Washing/Ureteral Washing)**

1. **Indications**

Detection of suspected malignancy utilizing lavage specimens obtained cystoscopically (bladder washing, ureteral washing); staging of urologic malignancies.

2. **Specimen Required**

10 mL (or more) of an appropriately collected cystoscopically derived specimen.

3. **Supplies**

Standard cystoscopy equipment, clean collection container of appropriate size and fixative (70% alcohol).

#### 4. Collection Procedure

- a. Using standard cystoscopy technique, obtain washing specimens, carefully denoting specific specimen sites for each specimen on the requisition.
- b. Add 70% alcohol as soon as possible in a volume equal to the specimen collected. Label each container with the patient name, site source and requisition peel-off number.
- c. **STORAGE:** Submit the specimen at room temperature along with the completed HPC requisition and copies of insurance card(s).

#### References

- A. Koss, Leopold G MD: *Diagnostic Cytology and its Histopathologic Basis*, Volume 2, JB Lippincott Company, 1992
- B. Lester, Susan C MD, PhD: *Manual of Surgical Pathology*, Churchill Livingstone, Philadelphia, 2001.