

Gynecologic Cytology Specimen Collection Guidelines



Pap and HPV Testing

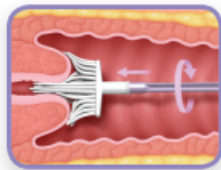
To optimize collection conditions for gynecologic cytology:

- Schedule the patient's appointment approximately two weeks after the first day of her last menstrual period.
- Instruct the patient not to douche or use vaginal creams/lubricants 48 hours prior to the test.
- Do not use lubricant for insertion of the speculum unless necessary. If lubricant must be used due to patient discomfort or other circumstances, we recommend the use of
 - ✓ Surgilube lubricant from HR Pharmaceuticals or
 - ✓ Pap Test Lubricating Jelly from Aseptic Control Products/Sion Brands.

Both are carbomer-free lubricants that have been validated by Hologic for use with the ThinPrep® Pap test.

- Collect Thin Prep Pap samples according to the guidelines for the specific collection device:

1. Broom-Like Device Protocol



Obtain an adequate sampling from the cervix using a broom-like device. If desired, use lukewarm water to warm and lubricate the speculum. Apply water-soluble, carbomer-free gel lubricant sparingly to the posterior blade of the speculum if necessary.^{1,2} Insert the central bristles of the broom into the endocervical canal deep enough to allow the shorter bristles to fully contact the ectocervix. Push gently and rotate the broom in a clockwise direction for five complete, 360 degree turns.



Rinse the broom as quickly as possible into the PreservCyt® Solution vial by pushing the broom into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart. Swirl the broom **vigorously** to further release material. Do not leave the head of the broom in the vial. Discard the collection device.



Tighten the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.



Record the patient's name and ID number on the vial.

Record the patient information and medical history on the cytology requisition form.



Place the vial and requisition in a specimen bag for transport to the laboratory.

Refer to the instructions provided with the collection device for warnings, contraindications, and limitations associated with specimen collection.

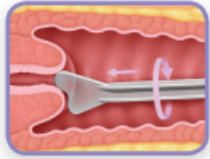
Contact Us

If you have any questions or need more information, contact Cytology at Pathology Services Laboratory by phone at 479-968-6781 or 1-800-874-4904 or by email at PSLab@pathologyserviceslab.com.

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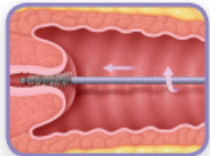
2. Endocervical Brush/Spatula Protocol



Obtain an adequate sample from the ectocervix using a plastic spatula. If desired, use lukewarm water to warm and lubricate the speculum. Apply water-soluble, carbomer-free gel lubricant sparingly to the posterior blade of the speculum if necessary.^{1,2} Select the contoured end of the plastic spatula and rotate it 360 degrees around the entire ectocervix, while maintaining tight contact with ectocervical surface.



Rinse the spatula as quickly as possible into the PreservCyt® Solution vial by swirling the spatula **vigorously** in the vial 10 times. Discard the spatula.



Obtain an adequate sampling from the endocervix using an endocervical brush device. Insert the brush into the cervix until only the bottom-most fibers are exposed. Slowly rotate 1/4 or 1/2 turn in one direction. **DO NOT OVER-ROTATE THE BRUSH.**



Rinse the brush as soon as possible in the PreservCyt Solution by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing it against the PreservCyt vial wall. Swirl the brush **vigorously** to further release material. Discard the brush.



Tighten the cap so that the torque line on the cap passes the torque line on the vial.



Record the patient's name and ID number on the vial.

Record the patient information and medical history on the cytology requisition form.



Place the vial and requisition in a specimen bag for transport to the laboratory.

ThinPrep®
PAP TEST

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