



South Tees Hospitals  North Tees and Hartlepool  <small>NHS Foundation Trust</small>	File name: CP-HIS-FORM-003-UN	Revision: 112
Pathology Services, Department of Cellular Pathology	Current Author: Laura Walters	
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## Semen Analysis Patient Information and Collection Guidelines Infertility

Your doctor wishes for you to have a sample of your semen examined.  
The examination will be performed at the Cellular Pathology Laboratory located within Clinical Pathology at **North Tees University Hospital**.

The specimen must be accompanied by a completed Andrology Request Form.  
When submitting your sample, please ensure the following fields on the form are completed:

Name\* and Address

Date of Birth\*

NHS Number\*

Name of the Requesting Doctor

Date and Time of Specimen Collection\*

Period of Abstinence/Date of last intercourse

Approximate amount of sample lost at collection eg 25%, 50%

*\*Samples submitted without this detail may be rejected*

Please follow the instructions below:

### 1. Period of abstinence

Optimal sample for investigation can be produced two days after previous ejaculation, but no later than 6 days.

After ejaculation, it takes approximately two days for semen to be present as normal and semen will begin to deteriorate again if more than six days' elapse without ejaculation.

### 2. Sample collection



#### **Please Note:**

**There are no sample collection facilities available at any of the hospital sites. Your sample should be collected in private facilities, prior to drop off.**

- Wash your hands and genitals with un-perfumed soap and water.
- Rinse off all soap with clear water and dry thoroughly.
- Produce the sample into the sterile container by masturbation, taking care to collect the whole ejaculate. A condom or lubricant jellies must not be used.
- The **whole sample** should be collected directly into the container provided.
- Ensure that the lid of the container is tightly secured; the laboratory will not examine the sample if part of the sample has leaked out or if a full sample is not submitted.

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Print date: 11/08/2025

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### 3. Sample labelling

As a minimum, the sample container must be labelled with your full name, date of birth and NHS Number, or Hospital Number if known, as well as the date and time the sample was produced. Samples submitted without this detail may not be accepted for processing and a repeat sample will be required.

### 4. Delivery of sample

#### Delivery of sample

After collection, specimens must arrive at the Clinical Pathology Reception at the University Hospital of North Tees as soon as possible and within **1 hour of collection**; the activity of any sperm present will start to deteriorate rapidly after this time and your result accuracy may be affected.

- Keep the sample at body temperature during transport.
- Ideally the specimen should be taken directly to the Clinical Pathology Reception at the University Hospital of North Tees. Semen samples are accepted at the between the hours of **9am** and **4:30pm**, Monday to Friday only, excluding bank holidays.
- In exceptional circumstances receipt of the specimen may accepted outside these hours, but prior agreement should be sought by contacting Cellular Pathology on **01642 624446**.
- Alternatively, samples may be taken as quickly as possible, **within 1 hour of production**, to Pathology Reception at either James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough, The Friarage Hospital, Northallerton or University Hospital of Hartlepool, from which they will be transported to the University Hospital of North Tees.
 

Please be aware

  - James Cook University Hospital will only accept specimens between **8.30am and 3.30pm** on Monday to Friday only, excluding bank holidays.
  - Friarage Pathology Reception will accept specimens during the following times, Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays.
    - 9.45am – 10:15am,
    - 12.05pm – 12:35pm
    - 1pm – 2pm
  - University Hospital of Hartlepool Pathology Laboratory Reception will only accept specimens for transport between **9.00am and 3.00pm** on Monday to Friday only, excluding bank holidays.

Where you chose to deliver your sample to any site other than directly to the University Hospital of North Tees, please be aware that in doing so you are accepting there may be a delay in processing your sample due to the transport then required to get your sample to the testing laboratory.

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