

West Cumberland Hospital

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

HAEMATOLOGY

**INFERTILITY SEMEN ANALYSIS INFORMATION FOR CLINICIANS**

1. As requests for semen analysis are time consuming to perform we can only analyse these **by strict appointment only**.
2. You or the patient **must** make an appointment by contacting the Haematology Department on 01946 523434 **whether or not** the sample is to be produced at home or at the Hospital.
3. The laboratory can only perform semen analysis from **9.00am to 11:30am** Monday to Friday.
4. The patient has the option of producing the sample at home **BUT** the sample must reach the laboratory **within 45 minutes** of production. If this is impossible then the patient (with or without partner) is required to produce a masturbation sample in a private room in the Department of Pathology. Which ever method is chosen **an appointment must be made**. Those samples received without an appointment will not be analysed
5. If the patient can produce the sample at home please provide him with a silver topped, wide rimmed 60 ml plastic faeces specimen container, labelled request card, and absorbent pad following the instructions in the user guide .
6. A completed combined **HAEMATOLOGY/BIOCHEMISTRY REQUEST FORM AND AN IDENTITY FORM** must accompany the patient or sample. Results will be returned to you within 2-4 days together with a list of normal values.
7. Please indicate whether a semen analysis OR swim up test is required.
8. Post Op vasectomy reversal must be treated as a infertility request.

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DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

HAEMATOLOGY

**SEMEN ANALYSIS INFORMATION FOR THE PATIENT**

As requests for semen analysis are time consuming to perform we can only analyse these by **strict appointment** from 09:00am to 11:30hrs Monday to Friday

1. Prior to production of the semen sample, you must refrain from intercourse/masturbation for a minimum of 2 days and a maximum of 6 days.
2. You have the option of **either**:-
  - i. Producing the sample at home **BUT** the sample must reach the lab **within 45 minutes** of production. If this is impossible then option ii is necessary.
  - ii. Producing the sample in a private room in the laboratory with or without your partner.
3. Whichever option you choose **you must telephone** the Haematology department and make an appointment to attend the laboratory or to deliver your sample. You may phone between 09:00-17:00hrs Mon-Fri. (01946 523434)

**SPECIMENS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR APPOINTMENT**

**4. If you elect to produce the sample at home please make sure that you:-**

Obtain a wide rimmed sterile plastic specimen container, specimen bag with completed request form, absorbant pad and an identity form from your Doctor.

You must also be hygienic, washing hands and genital area beforehand.

Ordinary condoms should not be used as they contain spermicide that will kill the sperm.

- Samples should be produced by masturbation into the sterile pot provided.
- Use only the container provided or recommended by the GP practice or Laboratory and ensure it is labelled with your full name, date of birth, date/time of production.  
The laboratory will not accept unlabelled or incorrectly labeled specimens.
- Withdrawal (coitus interruptus) is not recommended for collecting the sample.
- Lid of container **must be securely fastened**, sample placed into the request bag **with an absorbent pad** and sealed. **Leaking samples will not be processed.**
- Warm the container to body temperature before producing the sample and maintain it at this temperature in the plastic bag during your journey to the laboratory (keep sample close to your body)
- Make sure the specimen cap is screwed tight.

The result of the analysis will be returned to your Doctor within 2-4 days.

The Haematology Department can be found within Pathology, follow signs for Pathology reception from the Out -Patient Department or on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor via Main reception. An identity form will have to be filled in before leaving.