

Semen Analysis

Patient Information

FERTILITY
FUSION

Author ID: LW
Leaflet Number: FF 007
Version: 10
Name of Leaflet: Semen Analysis
Last reviewed: January 2020
Next Review Date: January 2022



Semen production requirements for semen analysis as part of investigations of infertility and also following vasectomy

Please read all this information carefully prior to your test.

How to request an appointment

Semen tests are strictly by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the Andrology Department on **01942 264226**. During busy periods and out of hours, there is an answer machine in operation; please use it and we will return your call at the earliest opportunity. Semen testing is performed at Wrightington Hospital. Morning, afternoon and evening appointments are available. If for any reason you are unable to attend for your appointment, please call the department as soon as possible to change your appointment. Any samples which are brought in without an appointment will not be tested.

Where do I take my sample?

<p>Fertility Centre (Fertility Fusion) Wrightington Hospital Hall Lane Wrightington Wigan WN6 9EP</p>

The Fertility Centre is a stand-alone building, it is sign posted within the hospital grounds.

Can my partner take my sample in for me?

Only if you have completed the specimen collection slip on page 3.

Is there anything that may affect my results?

Failure to follow the instruction guidelines may seriously affect your results. If you have not followed instructions exactly then call the receptionist to organise another appointment.

How do I get my results?

Fertility results are normally sent out to your GP or the clinician who requested your test within one week. You may need to repeat your test. If this is necessary, ring the receptionist for another appointment. Normally this second test will take place six weeks after your first test. For post vasectomy testing please see additional information on page 4

Collection of the sample

- Do not have intercourse or ejaculations less than 48 hours prior to your test.
- You should not abstain from intercourse or ejaculations for more than 7 days.
- First wash your hands and genitals with soap and water, rinse and then dry thoroughly.
- Collect the sample by masturbation directly into the container; do not use a condom to collect your sample into, as this will kill sperm.
- Collect the entire ejaculate.

The container and the request form

- Use the semen analysis container provided for you.
- After producing your sample, screw the lid back onto the pot securely (a cross threaded lid is the commonest cause of a leaked sample). Samples which have leaked will not be tested.
- Make sure you fill in your details on your pot. Details should include name, date of birth and NHS number. Unlabelled pots will not be processed.
- Put your sample container into a sealed plastic bag (do not put any paperwork in this bag). It is very important that you fill in the slip at the bottom of this page, this information is essential.
- You may wish to place your sample, request form and completed slip into another bag ie a paper bag, to keep them together when you transport them to the Unit.

Delivery of the sample

The sample should arrive at the Andrology laboratory, The Fertility Centre at Wrightington Hospital (Fertility Fusion), within one hour of production. Please keep your sample warm by carrying it in an inside pocket, especially if the weather is cold. Overheating or chilling the sample may cause sperm to die.

Producing a sample at the Unit

If you wish to produce your sample on site, there are two suitable specimen production rooms available for your convenience. Please advise the member of staff when you make your appointment, that you wish to use this facility. Please note that the unit does not provide any visual, stimulatory material, you must bring your own with you. There is no internet access.

Please complete this slip. This information is very important. Make sure you hand it in at the Unit along with your sample and request form.

Name	
Date of birth	
Date of sample collection	
Time of sample collection	
Number of days of abstinence from intercourse or ejaculations.	
Is all the sample in the pot?	
Please give details of any medical conditions, recent illness, surgery or medication which may affect your results.	

For more information you may contact Lesley Walsh, Chief Biomedical Scientist (Andrology Laboratory Manager) on 01942 264226 or email lesley.walsh@wwl.nhs.uk

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR POST VASECTOMY TESTING

- To ascertain that your operation has been successful you are required to submit at least 1 semen sample for testing.
- It is important that you read this leaflet carefully, it provides you with all the information you need to arrange your appointment for semen testing; it also tells you where to take it and how to collect it.
- Testing is by appointment only. You should get a text reminder of the date of your test; if we have your mobile phone number and you agree to this service.
- Your semen sample should be submitted at least 20 weeks after your operation and after you have had at least 24 ejaculations since your operation. Patients over the age of 45 may well require significantly more ejaculations to establish clearance.
- You must use the semen analysis pot provided to collect your sample.
- If your first test shows that sperm are still present, you will be required to do a further test 3 weeks later. You will be notified if this is the case.
- It is important that you submit the information below along with your sample and request form.
- Your results will be sent to you in writing approximately 4 weeks after you have submitted your sample.

Please remember your sample needs to be complete (the full ejaculate in the pot), having abstained for 2 days but not more than 7 days.

ADDITIONAL POST VASECTOMY TEST (if required)	
Name	
Date of Birth	
Date of sample collection	
Time of sample collection	
Number of days since you last ejaculated	
Did all of your ejaculate go in the pot?	

FIRST SAMPLE POST VASECTOMY	
Name	
Date of Birth	
Date of sample collection	
Time of sample collection	
Number of days since you last ejaculated	
Did all of your ejaculate go in the pot?	

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our “how we use your information” leaflet which can be found on the Trust website:

https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient_information/leaflets

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, braille and other languages upon request. For more information please ask in department/ward.

© Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust
All rights reserved. Not to be reproduced in whole or in part without the permission of the copyright owner

