

Sample Production for Investigating Retrograde Ejaculation

Patient Information

FERTILITY
FUSION

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Sample production requirements for Investigation of Retrograde Ejaculation

Please read all this information carefully prior to your test.

Retrograde Ejaculation occurs when semen enters the bladder instead of emerging through the penis during orgasm. You may ejaculate very little or no semen. Retrograde Ejaculation is not harmful but it can lead to infertility, it can be caused by some medications, some health conditions and previous surgery to the bladder neck.

Getting an Appointment

Andrology tests are strictly by appointment. Appointments can be made by calling the Andrology Department on 01942 264226 between 9am and 4pm. Testing is performed at Wrightington Hospital, morning and afternoon appointments are available. Let the Andrology department know that the test is for retrograde ejaculation testing when booking the appointment so that you can be allocated a longer time slot. 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.

When you book your appointment the Andrologist will go through these instructions with you to make sure you understand the procedure.

Prior to your appointment

You will need some sodium bicarbonate or bicarbonate of soda; this can be purchased from the baking section at most supermarkets.

Do not have intercourse, ejaculations or orgasms for 48 hours prior to your test. You should not abstain from intercourse, ejaculations or orgasms for more than 7 days prior to your test.

You will need a request form from your Clinician and this patient information leaflet. Your pots and bags may be given to you when you attend for your appointment. There is a suitable room at Fertility Fusion which you can use to produce your samples.

The night before your appointment

Because the normally acidic urine is considered to be toxic to sperm you should try to make your urine less acidic by taking a teaspoon of the sodium bicarbonate or bicarbonate of soda you purchased, in a small glass of water the night before the test.

The day of your appointment

Take another teaspoon of sodium bicarbonate or bicarbonate of soda in a small glass of water in the morning. Empty your bladder approximately an hour before attending the unit for your appointment. Make sure you bring your request form and this leaflet with you.

Where to go

The Fertility Centre at Wrightington Hospital (Fertility Fusion), Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan WN6 9EP the Fertility centre is a stand-alone building and is signposted throughout the hospital grounds.

Collection of the Sample

- You will be shown into a lockable room with your pots and bags.
- Ensure that both pots are labelled with your name, date of birth and hospital or NHS number.
- First wash your hands with soap and water, rinse and then dry thoroughly.
- Have your first pot open and ready to collect any semen into it.
- Masturbate to orgasm; if you produce any semen collect it into the open pot.
- As soon as you are ready; produce a urine sample into the other pot.
- Put both samples into their own sealable bag. Put the samples, request form and completed slip from below into the dignity bag and give to the Andrologist.

Is there anything that may affect my results?

Failure to follow the instruction guidelines may affect your results.

How do I get my results?

Results are normally sent out to the clinician who requested your test within a week. The Andrologist will let you know how you will be able to get your results. 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; ejaculations or orgasm:

If you produced any semen did it all go in the pot?

Please give details of any medical conditions, recent illness and medication.

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For more information contact Lesley Walsh (Chief Biomedical Scientist) on 01942 264226 or email Lesley.walsh@wwl.nhs.uk

Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

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 Teaching Hospitals 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 the department/ward.

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Call 111 first, when it's less urgent than 999.