

Introduction

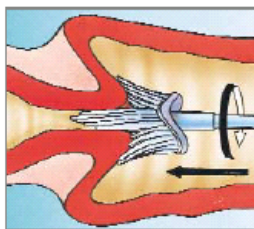
This document outlines the procedure for taking *ThinPrep*® liquid-based cytology samples.

Equipment

A Rovers® Cervex-Brush® and a liquid-based cytology *PreservCyt*® vial.

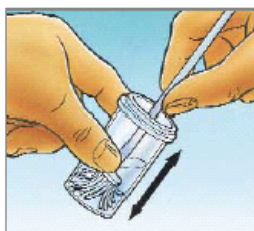
Taking a liquid-based cytology cervical sample

Collection of cervical cellular material into a preservative fluid must be done rapidly and according to the instructions below:



Obtain...

...an adequate sampling from the cervix using a broom-like device. 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 five times.



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. As a final step, swirl the broom vigorously to further release material. Discard the collection device.

Note:

Do not leave the broom head in the vial.

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

Complete the request form.

Contraindications: *The brush should not be used on patients after the first 10 weeks of pregnancy.*

Vault Samples

Use the Cervex-Brush® to take vault samples by using a sweeping action at the site of the scar or at the top of the vault.

Do	Do Not
Excessive mucus should be gently removed to one side before sampling	Do not routinely clean the cervix or take a cervical swab before taking a sample
Always use a Cervex-Brush®	Do not use expired vials
Rotate the Cervex-Brush® 5 times in a clockwise direction	Do not use a wooden spatula
Immediately rinse the collected material into the vial	Do not leave the collection device in the vial whilst dealing with the patient
Replace the lid and tighten so that the black line on the lid passes the black line on the vial	Do not over tighten the lid
Keep the unlabelled portion of the vial free from labels so that the vial contents can be seen	Do not put multiple labels or barcode labels on the vial
Label the vial with 3 identifiers: (e.g. surname, forename and DOB or hospital no.). Send the samples to the laboratory without delay.	

Lubricant

Lubricant must not be used. It is recommended that warm water is used only. If a lubricant must be used, only use water-based lubricant such as KY jelly but ensure that this does not contaminate the cervix. Samples contaminated with lubricants may be unsatisfactory for reporting.

Please ensure that topical creams are ceased 7 days prior to taking a cervical sample.

Where to send

Put the vial and request form in a suitable pathology bag and send to Histopathology at 116 Harley Street.

Reference

NHS Cervical Screening Programme - Guidance for the training of cervical sample takers, PHE Nov 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cervical-screening-cervical-sample-taker-training>