

# SPECIMEN COLLECTION

## FOR THE CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAM

The collection of cervical cells is completed the same way that a usual Pap smear was collected, with the only difference being that the cervical cells are now placed into a specific liquid in a vial rather than on a slide.

### MATERIALS REQUIRED

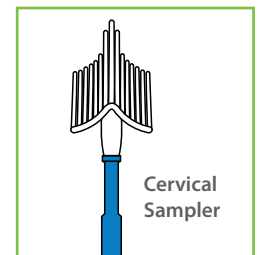
1. Dorevitch Pathology request form
2. Dorevitch Pathology Cervical Sampling Kit
3. ThinPrep® vials.



### 1. OBTAIN AN ADEQUATE SAMPLE FROM THE CERVIX

- a) Use luke warm water to lubricate and warm the speculum. A water soluble gel lubricant can be sparingly applied to the posterior blade if necessary. Do not use carbomer-based lubricants.
- b) Insert the speculum.
- c) Insert the central bristles of the Cervical Sampler deep enough into the endocervical canal to ensure the shorter bristles contact the exocervix, then push gently and rotate the broom in a full clockwise direction **4 - 5 times**.

**Please note:** An endocervical brush should not be used in pregnant women.



### 2. PLACE THE CERVICAL SAMPLER INTO THE THINPREP® VIAL ASAP

- a) Ensure the ThinPrep® vial is within the use by date. The liquid can be stored at room temperature and does not require refrigeration.
- b) Push the Cervical Sampler into the bottom of the vial **10 times**, ensuring to push hard enough to force the bristles apart.
- c) Swirl the Cervical Sampler before removing it from the vial.
- d) Discard the Cervical Sampler.

**Please note:** Do not make any glass slides.

### 3. SECURE THE CAP ON THE VIAL

Tighten the cap enough that the torque line on the cap is in line with the torque line on the vial.

### 4. RECORD THE PATIENT DETAILS AND COMPLETE THE REQUEST FORM

- a) Record the patient's full name and date of birth on the vial.
- b) Complete the patient's details on the request form providing as much information as possible. Pertinent clinical details are essential for reliable cervical screening. Please ensure to request **HPV for cervical screening** and state the **REASON** for test, e.g. screening or symptomatic.

**Other important information** should be noted on the request form under clinical notes.

#### **Doctor please consider:**

- Patients who are symptomatic (e.g. history of abnormal vaginal bleeding) require both an HPV and a concurrent liquid-based cytology (LBC).
- Patients who have previously been diagnosed with endocervical adenocarcinoma in-situ (AIS), also require a concurrent LBC annually.
- Patients who are immune deficient are advised to repeat testing in 3 years not 5 years.

### 5. PACKAGE THE SAMPLE AND REQUEST FORM FOR TRANSPORT

Place both the vial and request form into a specimen bag for transport to the laboratory in the usual manner.

#### **MEDICARE REBATE**

Cervical screening requests that follow the national prescribed laboratory process will be bulk billed subject to Medicare guidelines and criteria. If Medicare guidelines and criteria are not met, an out-of-pocket fee may apply. If the patient wants additional cervical cytology smears that do not fit the MBS criteria, these tests will not be rebated by Medicare.

#### **Further information:**

Dr Leonard Wu, BMed PhD FRCPA  
Acting Pathologist in Charge

Faye Kapoulitsas, Manager Cytopathology  
(03) 9244 0313

dorevitch.com.au | 03 9244 0444

Specialist Diagnostic Services Pty Ltd (ABN 84 007 190 043) t/a Dorevitch Pathology. DP0790 26.09.17