Sputum for Cytology

CONTAINER: CytoLyt™ fixative

- Label with two patient identifiers and date of collection
  - Unlabeled specimens will be rejected
- If specimen is to be shared with Microbiology, do NOT use CytoLyt™ fixative
  - Collect specimen in sterile cup and send to lab
  - Do not refrigerate
- Metro Hospitals obtain CytoLyt™ from Lab Pathology/Cytology Department
- Reference Laboratory Clients obtain CytoLyt™ by ordering from the Allina Health Laboratory Supply Catalog

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Three separate early morning deep cough specimens collected on three consecutive days are desirable for adequate examination
- Instruct patient to rinse mouth with water prior to collection
- Have the patient collect specimen directly into a container of CytoLyt™ fixative
  - Caution: patient should not drink CytoLyt™
- If Fungus/ Pneumocystis Stain is also requested, indicate “Cytology and Fungus Stain”
- Include pertinent clinical history or previous malignancy