



Hair

Quantity: Three inches of head hair, approximately 0.5 g. Typically this is the length of an index finger and width of a pencil.



Instructions:

1. Gather a lock of hair the width of the pencil from the back of head.
2. Cut hair near scalp, cutting at least 3 inches. Do not cut scalp or pull hair from scalp.
3. Place hair in hair container provided.
4. Indicate patient name, a second identifier (medical record number, accession number, or date of birth), and source of hair on outside of container.

Note: Head hair is the preferred specimen. If head hair is not available, pubic, beard, mustache or chest hair is acceptable if enough quantity can be obtained. **Beard trimmings or razor clippings are not acceptable.**

5. Place container in bag provided.
6. Indicate testing needed, and send appropriate paperwork.
7. Send specimen at ambient temperature.

Cautions:

- Do not apply tape to hair.
- Do not place hair in same container as nails.
- If both hair and nail testing is wanted, each must be placed under a separate order.

Nails

Quantity: 0.5 g. clippings should be taken for all 10 nails.

Instructions:

1. Cut all 10 nails, either fingernails or toenails.
2. Place nails in nail container provided.
3. Indicate patient name, a second identifier (medical record number, accession number, or date of birth), and source of nails on outside of container.
4. Place container in bag provided.
5. Indicate testing needed, and send appropriate paperwork.
6. Send specimen at ambient temperature.

Cautions:

- Do not place nails in same container as hair.
- Nails must be free of polish or testing will be canceled.
- If both hair and nail testing is wanted, each must be placed under a separate order.