

PELVIC WASHINGS (PELVIC, RIGHT AND LEFT GUTTER, UPPER ABDOMINAL OR SUBDIAPHRAGMATIC, CUL-DE SAC)

Used to obtain a diagnostic cell sample through irrigation or flushing of the abdominal cavity during the surgical procedure.

General Instructions:

1. Fill out a cytopathology requisition completely or test request on the hospital information system (HIS). (Refer to the "Specimen Collection" section of this manual for HIS instructions.)
2. Label appropriate collecting containers with the patient's name, body site, and date.
3. Collect the specimen. Fluid that is unusually bloody and likely to clot, add heparin (5 to 10 units per 1 mL of fluid).
4. Place the specimen(s) and the requisition in the specimen bag.
5. Send to the Laboratory for processing.

NOTE: Transit to the Laboratory should be immediate to avoid cell deterioration. If immediate delivery to the Laboratory is not possible, cytology fixative may be added to the specimen container or refrigeration is recommended.