GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PathWest LABORATORY MEDICINE WA

Clean-catch urine sample collection

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Paediatric urine bags can introduce bacterial contamination to the urine sample, which can affect the results. Clean-Catch samples are preferred when possible.

Scan for locations

You will be given a sterile container for your child's sample. If the container is broken or you have touched the inside surface, please request a new container.

1. Clean the child's genital area thoroughly with soap and water, and dry completely. No powder should be applied. Wash your hands before performing the collection.
2. Loosen jar lid of the collection container, but do not take the lid off until you see your child is passing urine, to prevent contamination of the container.
3. If possible, avoid collecting the first portion of the urine that is passed.
4. Collect the middle portion of the urine flow by placing the container under the child's genital area. If the child is potty trained, you may place the container into the potty and collect the sample. Be careful not to touch the inside and lip of the container with your own hands or with any of the child's body including their genitalia.
5. When filling the container with urine, no more than half the jar is needed. If the sample is contaminated with faecal material, it will be unsuitable for testing.
6. Make sure the lid is on tightly and you have not touched the inside, lip or under the lid of the container. Wipe off any urine on the outside of the container with toilet paper.
7. Write the **child's full name, date of birth, and the date and time** the sample is collected on the outside of the container.

Sample handling, storage and delivery

If you are at a collection centre
Place the container into the plastic bag provided and hand it to a staff member

Collecting a sample at home
Deliver it to a PathWest collection centre within **one hour**. If immediate delivery is not possible, store the sample in the fridge (not freezer) for up to 12 hours in an additional sealed bag unless otherwise instructed by staff.

Disclaimer: This publication is for general education and informational purposes. Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.
© State of Western Australia, PathWest Laboratory Medicine WA 2026