

Sputum Collection Instructions

For
Acid Fast Bacilli (AFB)

1. You will be provided with three (3) plastic containers and three plastic bags.
2. Collect early morning sputum (on three different days) from a deep productive cough into a sample cup. This should be phlegm, not saliva.
3. Write the date on the outside of the container and place in a plastic bag provided. (Make sure the lid is on tight).
4. Store the specimens in the refrigerator.
5. Return the specimens to CUHCC Laboratory upon completion of collection, as soon as possible, between the hours of 0830AM and 445PM Monday thru Friday. (Excluding Holidays)

Note: Prompt delivery of the specimens to the lab after collection is very important for timely results. Specimens should be stored in the refrigerator until then. Return to CUHCC immediately.