



DIAGNOSTIC MEDLAB

Instructions for the collection of SPUTUM SPECIMENS

You have been given a sterile container with a screw lid.

1. Collect sputum first thing in the morning.
A deep cough should give a good specimen.
A watery specimen is often just saliva from the mouth and is no use for testing.
2. You may be required to collect three specimens.
Collect these on three different mornings.
3. Label the container with your name, date of birth and date and time of collection.
4. Return each specimen to a Diagnostic Medlab collection room on the day of collection.