

## Collection of Urine Specimens for Culture from LTC Residents

Urine specimens for culture should be processed ASAP, within 1-2 hours, or refrigerated or placed in boric acid for storage and transport. Refrigerated/boric acid specimens must be cultured within 24 hours of collection.

### For cooperative and functionally capable residents – mid-stream clean catch specimen.

- Female residents: Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, rinse, and dry.
- Spread labia with one hand and keep it continuously apart.
- Take an open sterile cup in the other hand (careful not to contaminate).
- When over a toilet void 20 to 25 ml into the toilet and catch a portion of the rest of the urine into the cup without stopping the stream. Do not touch the legs, vulva, or clothing with the cup.
- Securely place the lid on the cup.
- Male residents: Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, rinse, and dry.
- If necessary retract the foreskin completely.
- When over a toilet void 20 to 25 ml into the toilet and catch a portion of the rest of the urine into the cup without stopping the stream. Do not touch the cup with the penis.
- Securely place the lid on the cup.

### For residents not capable of providing a mid-stream clean catch specimen themselves.

- Female residents: Perform an in-and-out catheterization using sterile technique.
- Male residents: Use a freshly applied, clean condom catheter and monitor bag frequently. Collect urine specimen as soon as 5-10 ml is available.
- Perform an in-and-out catheterization using sterile technique.

Resident with indwelling catheter for  $\leq$  14 days

Obtain specimen by sampling through the catheter port using sterile technique -  
**DO NOT COLLECT URINE FROM THE BAG**

If port not present you may puncture the catheter tubing with a needle and syringe using sterile technique - **DO NOT COLLECT URINE FROM THE BAG**

Resident with indwelling catheter for  $>$  14 days

Change catheter prior to collection (sterile technique) and collect as described above - **DO NOT COLLECT URINE FROM THE BAG**