ALBANY MED Health System
SARATOGA HOSPITAL

SARATOGA HOSPITAL LABORATORY
211 CHURCH STREET, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866
CYTOLOGY DEPARTMENT
(518) 583-8442

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING VOIDED URINE FOR CYTOLOGIC EXAMINATION

Each patient is given a urine cytology kit which includes:
..Specimen container with 50% ethyl alcohol fixative
..Cytology requisition
..Plastic cup

COLLECTION:

1. *A first morning voided specimen is not suitable.*
2. *Have patient drink as much water as possible without causing any discomfort for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. During this period, the urine is discarded.*
3. *At the end of this period, collect the next voided specimen in plastic cup (a minimum volume of 15-30 ml is required), then immediately pour urine specimen into container with 50% alcohol fixative. Cap the specimen container tightly and refrigerate.*
4. *Label specimen container with patient full name, date of birth, and date of collection.*
5. *If the foregoing procedure cannot be carried out, an alternative procedure would be to submit a freshly voided urine sample after the bladder has been emptied earlier.*
6. *Each specimen must be accompanied by a completed Cytology requisition. It is important to include all pertinent clinical information on the request form.*
7. *Place specimen container and requisition inside the zip-lock bag and seal.*
8. *Deliver the specimen to Saratoga Hospital Laboratory.*
9. *Please call Saratoga Hospital Cytology Laboratory for additional information (518) 583-8442.*

NOTE: If a physician orders urine for cytology x 3, repeat steps 1-5 for three consecutive mornings; be sure to write patient full name, date of birth and date of collection on each specimen container. Refrigerate each specimen and deliver to laboratory upon completion of three specimens.