ALBANY MED Health System
SARATOGA HOSPITAL

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING SPUTUM FOR CYTOLOGY

Each patient is given a sputum cytology kit which includes:
...Specimen container with 50% ethyl alcohol fixative
...Cytology requisition
...Zip-lock bag

COLLECTION:

1. *Thoroughly cleanse mouth with water before collection.*
2. *Cough deeply and expel sputum into specimen container.*
3. *Close container and tighten cap.*
4. *Write patient full name, date of birth, and date of collection on the specimen container.*
5. *Complete the Cytology requisition.*
6. *Place specimen container and requisition inside the zip-lock bag and seal.*
7. *Deliver the specimen to Saratoga Hospital Laboratory.*

Note: If a physician orders sputum 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.*

Day(s) and time(s) test performed:
Monday – Friday 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM