

## PATIENT INFORMATION FOR SEMEN COLLECTION

### **Semen Analysis:**

An integral part of the infertility evaluation of a couple is the examination of the male partner's semen, or what is commonly referred to as the sperm count. This term is somewhat inaccurate, as the semen analysis involves more than just counting the number of sperm. A semen analysis is an accurate measurement of the number of sperm, their motility, and their normality. The information gained from this examination is probably the single most important test in the evaluation of the male partner.

### **Patient instructions for specimen collection:**

**PLEASE SCHEDULE THE APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR ANALYSIS IN ADVANCE BY CALLING  
(806) 743-2352.**

This will insure proper personnel will be available to complete your tests. We do have limited Saturday hours by appointment, but this is for inseminations only.

1. Refrain from any sexual activity including masturbation for 2-3 days (longer periods are discouraged). EXCEPTION: For intrauterine inseminations you may be required to collect two consecutive specimens within a 24 hour interval.
2. The semen specimen should be collected by masturbation. Alternate methods may be discussed with your physician, but are NOT recommended. Do NOT collect the specimen in a condom as it contains spermicidal agents which will alter the results of the analysis. Special silastic condoms may be used ONLY after consulting with the physician ordering the tests.
3. The specimen should be collected ONLY in a container provided by this office.
4. Either you or your partner should bring the specimen to the Reproductive Endocrinology Laboratory (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock, TX) within one hour after collection. Do NOT expose the specimen to extremes of temperature. If you are unable to deliver the specimen to the clinic within one hour, a room is available at the laboratory for specimen collection.
5. At your appointment with the lab, please sign the authorization form and fill in the days of abstinence. You also will be asked to provide a picture I.D., (for example, driver's license) which will be copied to provide positive patient identification. Labels will be provided with your name and medical record number. Please check the label for correct name and spelling. You will be given further instructions at your appointment.
6. PLEASE BE SURE YOU HAVE SIGNED ALL RELEVANT FORMS BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE CLINIC.
7. Samples for IUI will be taken to the doctor's office. Check that the tube label and the paperwork match. If there is a problem, please notify the doctor or nurse immediately.
8. Results of most tests will be available to your physician within 2-3 business days. Please do not call the lab; we are unable to release any information to patients or their partner directly.