

OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY  
Hospitals and Clinics  
Point of Care

**Post-Vasectomy Check for Sperm**

Principle

Semen is examined for the presence of sperm following a vasectomy. Semen samples are checked after 8-10 ejaculations. If sperm are present check should be repeated after several more ejaculates.

Specimen Requirements

Patient is instructed as follows:

1. Collect seminal fluid directly into a clean glass or hard plastic container.
2. Include the entire specimen.
3. Bring the specimen to laboratory within 1 hour after collection. Maintain warmth (37° C) during transport.

Minimum volume: 0.1 mL

Optimal volume: 1.0 mL

Interferences

None

Reference Range

Sterile Male: No sperm seen

Alert Values

None

Test Accuracy and Reliability Verification

All providers performing Sperm Checks must be enrolled in the on-line training with Medtraining. Please contact Point of Care at 4-6035 to be enrolled.

Test Procedure

1. Allow specimen to liquefy (30 minutes at room temperature).
2. Thoroughly mix by gently swirling container.
3. Pipette sample into a chamber of Count 10 or on a clean glass slide. Cover slip

slide.

4. Examine the entire chamber area or at least 25 fields with high power (400X) magnification for the presence of sperm.

### Results Reporting

1. If no sperm are seen, report "none seen".
2. If there are 1 or more sperm, report sperm present.
3. Record results in patient log and/or enter results into Epic.

### Supplies

1. Disposable pipettes
2. Count 10 Slides, V-Tech, Inc
3. Clean glass slides and cover slips.
4. Microscope

### References

1. Count 10 Package Insert, V-Tech, Pomona, CA.
2. Berkow, Robert , The Merck Manual, Rahway, N.J. , Merck Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories, 1987.

Reviewed 12/20/10