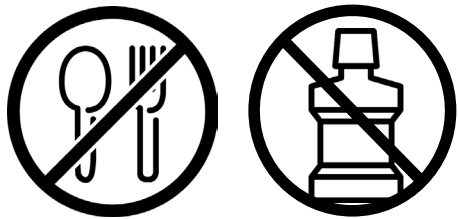
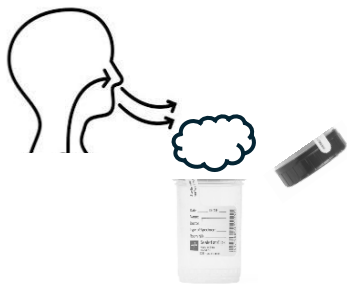


Sputum is the deep mucous or phlegm coughed up from the lungs. Please note that saliva from the mouth or secretions from the back of the throat are not acceptable and will result in a rejected sample.

Action	Image
Prepare for Collection: ✓ Collect sample immediately after waking before eating or drinking ✓ Remove dentures (if applicable) ✓ Rinse mouth with plain water to remove food particles (do not use toothpaste or mouthwash) ✓ Perform breathing treatments as prescribed	
Collect Specimen: ✓ Take a deep breath, hold for 5 sec and slowly exhale to raise mucus from lungs. Repeat 3 times. ✓ Open the container and hold close to your mouth. ✓ Take another deep breath and cough deeply from your chest/diaphragm to pull mucus from deep in your chest. ✓ Spit the thick mucus into the cup until you reach 5 mL then screw the lid on tightly.	
Label specimen container (not lid): ✓ Patient Legal Full Name (Last, First) ✓ Patient Date of Birth ✓ Collection Date/Time ✓ Specimen Source "Sputum"	Patient Legal Name: Last, First Patient Date of Birth: 00/00/0000 Collection Date/Time: 00/00/0000 00:00 Source: Sputum
Package and transport specimen to the laboratory: ✓ Place specimen in transport bag with laboratory requisition folded in the front pocket. ✓ Transport to the laboratory within 2 hours room temperature or refrigerated if > 2 hours.	