



Document No: SOP3001/3

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Standard Operating Procedure **Urinary Pyrrole Analysis – Collection Protocol**

Introduction:

The compound measured in urinary pyrrole analysis is very sensitive to heat and light. If samples are not collected in the correct manner, examination results may be dramatically affected, leading to the possibility of incorrect or misleading diagnoses.

Notes for Patients / Parents / Carers:

1. The second morning void should be collected. The third and subsequent voids are okay for collection – as long as it's not the first.
2. Samples should be collected at a designated collection centre, NOT AT HOME. It must be guaranteed that the collection protocol is consistent. If this is not practical, please follow the notes for pathology collection below.
3. If the patient is taking a **Zinc supplement**, please note on appropriate paper-work, as zinc supplements affect measured results and are part of the treatment protocol.
4. If patient / parent / carer / doctor requires a "base-line" reading, the patient must CEASE SUPPLEMENTATION of Zinc (at least) 3 days prior to sample collection. It is understood that in some cases this is not possible or appropriate, in which case please make a note on the request form. Please **DO NOT** abstain from Zinc supplements for **subsequent** urinary pyrrole analyses unless directed by your physician.
5. It is important for the patient **NOT** to over-hydrate. To induce a specimen, for adults, drink 250mL (100mL for paediatrics) of water 30 to 40 minutes prior to providing a specimen.
6. Samples should **NOT** be collected from female patients during their menstrual cycle.

Notes for Pathology Collection:

1. Sample to be collected into vial containing AR ascorbic acid.
For example, for a 50ml vial, 0.50g (500mg) of AR Ascorbic Acid is added prior to collection.
2. Collection should be performed in a low lit room – not in strong light or direct sun-light (total darkness is not necessary).
3. Upon collection, the sample is to be sealed, wrapped in aluminium foil (to avoid light exposure) and **FROZEN PROMPTLY** at -15°C (standard freezer). If possible, "snap" freezing on dry ice (-30°C) is preferred.
4. The sample must remain frozen until analysis, therefore must be kept on **dry ice** during transit, (-30°C). If the sample thaws at all during transport, the final result will be void.

*** If in doubt, please contact Applied Analytical Laboratories on the number above ***

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