



Instructions for Preparing Conventional Pap Tests

Ontario Cervical Screening Reference Card

Instructions for "Pap" test preparation

Label Slide

- with PENCIL, on frosted side of slide
- unlabelled slides will not be processed
- complete requisition

Ensure ID and relevant history are complete.

NOTE: Ideally, smear will be taken close to mid-cycle.



Visualize Cervix

Refer to Adequate "Pap" Smears, Figure 1 (see below)

- lubricate speculum with warm water
- rinse talcum from outer surface of gloves
- do not use lubricant gel

Assess position of transformation zone.

Ensure zone will be sampled with appropriate device.

Take Sample

To obtain a proper "Pap" test, use a spatula and an endocervical sampling device, (e.g., brush) and apply on a single slide.

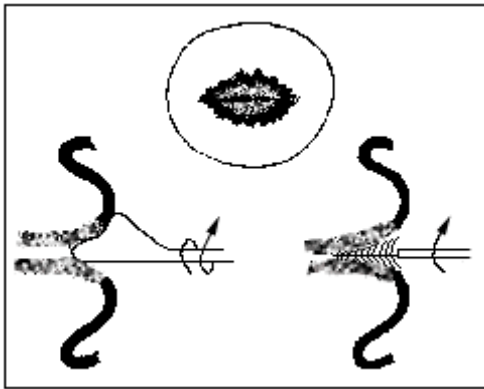
1. SPATULA

- rotate once through 360°
- keep spatula well applied

2. BRUSH

- or other endocervical sampling device
- insert gently
- turn through 90° only

NOTE: Do NOT use brush in pregnancy



Apply Sample

Use ONE slide. Apply each sample on one half of slide as shown — keep separate.

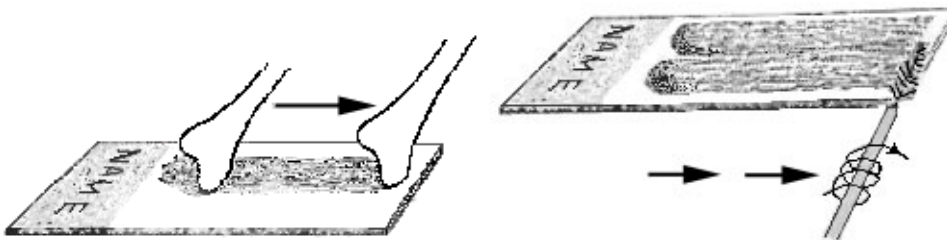
1. SPATULA

- spread in a single uniform motion

2. BRUSH

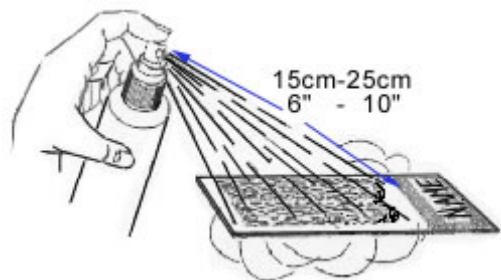
- sample will dry quickly
- roll on in one motion

This sequence should be practiced to avoid delay.



Fix Sample

- immediately
- allow sample to dry before closing mailer



Adequate "Pap" Smears: A Guide for Sampling Techniques in Screening for Abnormalities of the Uterine Cervix,
2nd ed., by Donald W. Thompson, MD

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Ontario Medical Association, 1510-250 Bloor St. E, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 1E6