

URINE COLLECTION

24-Hour Urine Collections:

The AVH Laboratory provides 24-hour urine collection containers. Please contact the Lab at 970-544-1570, stating what test(s) are ordered, so the appropriate preservative can be added (if necessary). Due to the differing preservative requirements of urine tests, more than one (1) 24-hour urine collection may be necessary.

Use the following procedure for specimen collection and preparation.

- (If applicable – acid or alkali used as a preservative) Warn patient of presence of potentially hazardous preservatives in collection container.
- Instruct patient to *discard first-morning* specimen and to record time of voiding.
- Patient should collect all subsequent voided urine for the next 24 hours.
- Collect **first-morning** specimen on day 2 at same time as noted on day 1.
- If a smaller aliquot of the 24-hour urine will be submitted, mix entire 24-urine volume well before aliquoting into transport tube. Record “Total Volume” in mLs of the 24-hour urine collection on the transport tube.

See “Urine Preservatives” in “Special Instructions” for multiple collections.

Random Collections:

For routine urinalysis and microscopic evaluation, have patient void into a clean container. Specimen should be capped, labeled, and refrigerated until courier pickup time.

A “clean-catch”, midstream (CCMS) specimen is preferred. Patient should first void a small amount of urine into the toilet. Before voiding is completed, some of the remaining urine should then be collected in a clean container.

Urine Culture:

If a culture is ordered or indicated the specimen should be refrigerated. If a delay of >6 hours is anticipated in specimen delivery to the laboratory, a portion of the specimen should be pipetted into a grey urine culture transport tube (containing boric acid). These culture-preservative tubes are available from the AVH Laboratory (970-544-1570).