



Instructions for Semen Collection

- Method:**
- The preferred method is masturbation. If this is unacceptable, interrupted intercourse may be used but is less desirable due to the potential for contamination and specimen loss.
 - Condoms produced for contraception should **not** be used as they contain spermicides.
 - Special inert condoms suitable for semen collection may be purchased from the QFG Office. Please contact the Admin Office for the current cost of these condoms.
- Where?**
- We prefer you to collect the specimen at home as long as you can deliver it to the Q.F.G. Office within two hours. Alternatively you may collect it in the semen collection room.
 - In special circumstances such as collection into Tyrodes solution for sperm antibodies and collection after retrograde ejaculation the specimen **must** be collected in the semen collection room to allow it to be analysed and processed immediately.
- Container**
- A sterile plastic specimen jar, supplied by your Doctor or the Q.F.G. Office is the only satisfactory container to use as these have been tested for the absence of any toxic factors.
- Delivery:**
- The specimen should be no more than 2 hours old when it is delivered to the Q.F.G. Office.
 - Do **NOT** refrigerate the specimen or allow its temperature to rise above body temperature before delivery.
 - The container should be labelled with the following information:
 - Your Full Name and Date of Birth & That of Your Partner
 - Date & Time of Collection
 - On delivery you will be requested to complete a form stating:
 - Your Full Name and Date of Birth & That of Your Partner
 - Your Doctor's Name
 - Date & Time of Specimen Collection
 - Method of Collection of the Specimen
 - Whether Any of the Specimen Was Lost During Collection
 - The Date of Your Last Ejaculation

Semen Specimens for Semen Analysis and/or Sperm Chromatin Structure Assay (SCSA) and/ or Sperm Chromatin Studies (SCS)

- Sexual Abstinence:** Unless otherwise advised by your doctor, three days and preferably not more than one week should have elapsed since your last ejaculation.
- Results:**
- Your doctor will normally have a copy of the Semen Analysis results within two working days.
 - SCSA and SCS tests may take up to 3 weeks for results to be available.
 - Results are only available from your Doctor.
- Booking:**
- Please ring 38331000 to make a booking at least 24 hours before intended collection.
- When?**
- Specimens can be brought to QFG Reception Monday to Friday between 7.00am and 8.30am. These tests will **NOT** be accepted on week-ends and public holidays.

Semen Specimens for Washing for Insemination

- Sexual Abstinence:** Unless otherwise advised by your doctor, it is preferable that at least two days and not more than one week should have elapsed since your last ejaculation before semen collection for washing & insemination.
- How Long?**
- The semen is briefly assessed, washed centrifugally twice with culture medium, re-suspended in 1ml of culture medium, and then reassessed. This may take 30-45 minutes. On busy days this procedure may take an hour or longer.
 - If the specimen is freshly collected when delivered for washing it is necessary for us to wait until it liquefies before processing it. This can take a further 20 minutes.
 - Specimens collected into Tyrode's solution are given three washes taking 50 to 60 minutes.
- When?**
- Take to QFG Reception at the time requested by your doctor. **Office opens 7.00am. Last specimen accepted 8.30am.** If you arrive before 7.00am please take a number from the desk and be seated until the office staff open the Reception desk for business.

Semen Specimens for Freezing (Cryopreservation)

- Sexual Abstinence:**
- Unless otherwise advised by your doctor, three days and preferably not more than one week should have elapsed since your last ejaculation before collection of semen for cryopreservation
- Consent Forms:**
- You will be required to sign a consent form authorising us to freeze and store the semen, acknowledging that storage fees must be paid and agreeing to keep us informed of your current address.
- Booking:**
- Please ring 38331000 to make a booking at least 48 hours before intended collection.
- When?**
- Specimens can be brought to QFG Reception, 3rd floor, weekdays only, 7.00am - 10.00am. Specimens for freezing will **NOT** be accepted on week-ends and public holidays.