

SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Endocervical Brushing

The Cytobrush® (“bottle” brush) is a useful biopsy instrument, especially as an adjunct to curettage sampling of the endocervix. For the occasional Pap test with atypical glandular cells of undetermined significance (AGUS), a follow up endocervical brushing with the Cytobrush® can provide important diagnostic information about the atypical glandular cells. This type of collection should be placed into cytology fixative instead of formalin. This allows us to produce both cytologic and histologic preparations, thereby providing valuable additional information about the collected glandular cells. The endocervical brush sampling is different than a Pap screening test, and should be labeled as “ECC in cytology fixative.”

Supplies

- Cytobrush (“bottle” brush)
- 10 cc of cytology fixative in vial (provided upon request)
- Endocervical curette and additional vial with 10 cc of cytology fixative (if curettage is performed)

Specimen Collection:

1. If both curettage and brushing are planned, perform the curettage first. (See FIGURE 1)
2. Insert the Cytobrush well into the endocervical canal and twist two full rotations.
3. Remove Cytobrush and place instrument directly into cytology fixative. Do not make glass smears of the brush.

FIGURE 1: Rinsing Curette in Cytology Fixative

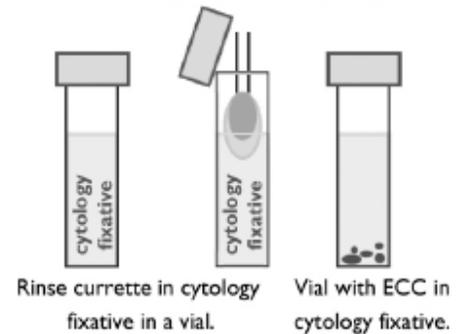
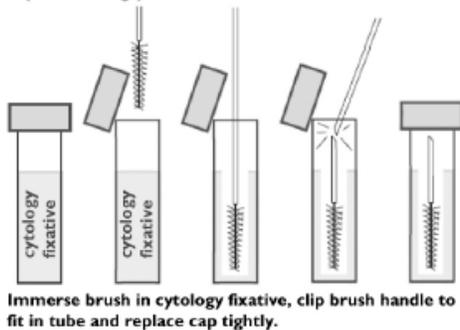


FIGURE 2: Using the tube with cytology fixative for brushings alone (no curettings)



4. Snip or break the plastic handle of the Cytobrush so that the brush will fit completely in the tube of fixative. (See FIGURE 2)
5. Seal fixative containers tightly. Label outside of containers with patient’s full first and last name, second unique identifier, and “ECC.”
6. Submit with a properly completed cytology requisition as “ECC in cytology fixative.”