

Results

If you have been referred by your GP, your results will be sent to them within 7 calendar days from receipt. Please contact your doctor's surgery to arrange this appointment. If you have been referred by a hospital doctor, they will write to you with an appointment where they will discuss your results.

Results are not available from the laboratory.

Repeat testing

You may be required to perform a repeat test due to the specimen being rejected (i.e. guidelines not followed).

You have positive motile sperm— it is important to produce your second sample on the same number of abstinence days to ensure consistency and accuracy in results.

Your referring clinician should ask the Andrology Department for a repeat test and we will send you an appointment.

If the appointed time is not convenient please telephone 01254 734380 to re-arrange the appointment.

Questions and Queries

If you have questions regarding your sample please ring the laboratory on 01254 732959 or find us on: www.elht.nhs.uk/departments-wards-and-services/andrology.htm

Quality of Our Service

The Andrology department is a UKAS accredited laboratory (ISO 15189). The laboratory participates in external quality assurance (UKNEQAS) and internal quality assurance is monitored. All tests carried out are in accordance with ABA guidelines and WHO (World Health Organisation) guidelines (2010).

All specimens will be tested by HCPC Registered Biomedical Scientists who are regularly competency assessed. After testing, your specimen may be used for quality checks, audit purposes or teaching.

Should you have any concerns regarding the service or any aspect of your care please speak to the Senior Biomedical Scientist, or if you prefer, the Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS)

No Smoking Policy

The NHS has a responsibility for the nation's health. Protect yourself, patients, visitors and staff by adhering to our no smoking policy. Smoking is not permitted within any of our hospital buildings or grounds.

Translation service

This document can be produced in Braille, on audio cassette and in other languages upon request, please call 01254 734380.

Semen analysis

Patient information leaflet



news.discovery.com

1 hour post vasectomy

**Department of Andrology
Clinical Laboratory Medicine**

Introduction

After your vasectomy operation you may resume having intercourse using a contraceptive, as soon as you feel able.

A one hour post vasectomy semen analysis will be required approximately 12 weeks post operation with a minimum of at least 20 ejaculations (unless otherwise directed from your referring Consultant). This involves producing a semen sample into a specimen container and delivering it to the laboratory within 1 hour of production. This is carried out by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**.

The semen will be analysed for any moving sperm, as any still present in your semen can result in pregnancy. Use contraception until the doctor who performed your vasectomy operation informs you that your post vasectomy semen sample is clear. Your referring doctor will be notified with the results within 7 days of receipt of the specimen.

These instructions are based on the British Andrology Society, Association of Biomedical Andrologists and the British Association of Urological Surgeons Guidelines 2016.

The sample will be analysed according to the **World Health Organisation (WHO)** standards for volume, presence of semen and motility.

Arranging a Semen analysis for 1 Hour Post Vasectomy

Your G.P or Clinician will send an electronic request to our department for an appointment to be made for you.

If the appointed time is not convenient please telephone 01254 734380 to re-arrange the appointment. **If you arrive in the department without an appointment your specimen will be rejected**

Your clinician will also give you a blue pack that will contain a pre-weighed specimen pot and guidelines. **Please do not use any other container** other than the one supplied in your pack as some plastics are toxic to sperm. Replacement pots can be collected from your GP surgery or Andrology department at RBH. **Your specimen will be rejected if it is received in the incorrect container.**

Instructions for collecting the semen sample

In order that an optimum specimen is obtained there should be a period **without sexual activity/ejaculation** of at least **2-7 days** before the specimen is produced, but no more than 7 days, as sperm can start to degenerate after this time.

The specimen should be collected at home and not in a public place as it is illegal.

Specimen must be collected by masturbation only (lubricants must not be used) and passed **directly** (without loss) into the sterile container provided (**condoms or other containers must not be used**). Ensure that the container is properly sealed. The specimen should be collected **no more than 1 hour** before delivery to the laboratory.

Any samples over 1 hour old will not be processed through the laboratory and a repeat sample will be asked for.*

The specimen pot must be clearly labelled with your full name, DOB, time of collection and number of days since last sexual activity; if any of this information is missing the report may be delayed.

After the sample is collected it must be transferred to the laboratory in the blue bag as close to body temperature as possible, within **1 hour** of production. Any delay could affect the nature of the specimen.

When transporting the specimen- place the container close to your body to keep warm and take it directly to the Andrology Department.

If you have any questions please contact the clinic where your vasectomy was performed.

Delivery of your sample

RBH

The Andrology Laboratory is based in the Department of Clinical Medicine, Level 0, Royal Blackburn Hospital, Haslingden Road, Blackburn

Monday-Thursday only

BGH

The specimen should be brought to Suite 3, Main Outpatients, Area 1, Level 2. The Main Out Patients department (off Casterton Avenue).

Friday only

(We are NOT open Saturday, Sunday or bank holidays on either site).