

## Pathology Department

# Semen Analysis (Post Vasectomy)

This leaflet has been designed to improve your understanding of the sperm test which is carried out following your vasectomy.

Many commonly asked questions are answered in this leaflet. However, if you have any other questions please ask your GP or clinician.

A vasectomy works by stopping sperm from getting into a man's semen. The purpose of this test is to ensure that this has been successful by looking for the presence/absence of sperm in your sample. You will require at least one sample to be clear of sperm in order to be given the all clear. Please be aware that you may need to use alternative forms of contraception in the meantime.

A few men continue to have small numbers of sperm in their semen, but these sperm do not move (they are known as non-motile sperm). If you are one of these men, your doctor will discuss your options with you. The chances of making your partner pregnant may be low enough to consider the vasectomy successful, or you may be advised to have further tests or consider other options.

## Please note the following points before arranging the test:

1. You should not have had any sexual activities for at least 48 hours before producing the sample of semen. However it should be no more than seven days since your last ejaculation.
2. Following your vasectomy the first sample should be sent 16 weeks after your operation and you must have had at least 24 ejaculations, before the test.
3. Your first sample must be received at Calderdale Royal Hospital within 3 hours of you producing it.
4. If your doctor has asked for a repeat sample this must be received at Calderdale Royal Hospital within 45 minutes of you producing it.
5. **Semen samples MUST NOT be taken to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, as there is no facility for testing semen samples at this hospital.**

## Booking your appointment

Semen samples are processed by appointments only and we strongly recommend samples are produced at Calderdale Royal Hospital using the production room facility. Please ring 01422 22 2053 to book your semen test.

At your appointment you will be asked to complete a questionnaire stating the date of your last ejaculation and whether all the sample was collected.

## For this test a fresh sample of semen has to be examined. Please follow these instructions

### How to Collect a Sample

- First wash your hands and genitals with soap and water. Please ensure complete removal of soap residues and dry thoroughly.
- Collect the sample by masturbation collecting the entire specimen directly into the sterile container provided. Do not use a sheath/condom for collection as these are harmful to the sample.
- Make sure the lid is secured tightly. Do not use adhesive tape.
- Write your full name, date of birth and date and time of production of the sample on the container label.

Please complete the questionnaire which will be given to you at your appointment.

### Rejection of Samples

#### Samples are not suitable for testing and will be rejected if:

- Unlabelled specimen containers
- No request form
- Leaking samples
- Samples received over 45 mins from production time

It will take approximately 1 week for your report to arrive back at your Doctors.  
Results will only be given to you by your Doctor.

For more information, please telephone the Andrology Department on (01422) 222053

**Reference:** WHO Laboratory Manual for the examination and processing of human semen Fifth Edition 2010  
NHS Choices <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/contraception-guide/pages/vasectomy-male-sterilisation.aspx>

## If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Cellular Pathology Laboratory Manager  
Calderdale Royal Hospital  
Telephone (01422) 222053

[www.cht.nhs.uk](http://www.cht.nhs.uk)

## If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce,  
obratte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych  
informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej,  
prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww.  
danych kontaktowych

ਬ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਚੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ,  
ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو  
برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم  
المذكور أعلاه"