

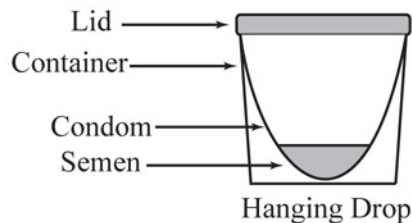
Reproductive Care Center

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Semen Collection by Condom Technique

While many men are comfortable collecting semen by masturbation for laboratory analysis, others prefer to collect samples by intercourse using withdrawal or a condom technique to catch the semen. When a condom is used to collect the semen, we recommend the following guidelines to ensure that a proper sample is available to the laboratory for easy processing:

- A specialized condom without lubricant or spermicide is required to avoid detrimental effects on the sperm. Specialized condoms are available at RCC for approximately \$12 or can be purchased online at www.INGFertility.com.
- After ejaculation is completed, slip off the condom carefully so that the semen stays in the end of the condom.
- The condom should then be placed into the specimen container as a “hanging drop” (see diagram below).
- Stretch the top of the condom over the mouth of the specimen container, keeping the excess part of the condom outside the cup, and cover the container tightly with the lid.
- Write your name on the label for proper identification



The husband or wife can bring the container, with enclosed condom and semen, to the laboratory for analysis.

Patients must have an appointment to have a semen analysis done. The lab does not accept walk-ins due to the time consuming and immediate nature of the testing. The sample should be here by the appointment time but not earlier than 30 minutes before appointment time.

Your wife must not be on her period at the time of the collection. We will not accept this type of sample and you will be required to re-schedule your appointment. No exceptions.

Try to bring the semen sample to the laboratory within 30-40 minutes as excessive storage of semen in sub-optimal conditions can deteriorate sperm quality. Keep the sample at body temperature and avoid exposure to the cold, direct sunlight, heaters or air conditioners. We recommend that, while in transit to the laboratory, the container be placed close to the body in a shirt pocket or between the legs to protect the sample from excess heat or cold.

See the basic semen collection instructions.

Your physician and/or our laboratory staff can provide guidance and answers to questions that may remain regarding the semen collection process; so don't hesitate to call us if you are concerned about any aspects of this process.