

Serous Fluid, Body Cavity Fluid

Pleural fluid/thoracentesis, peritoneal fluid/paracentesis, pericardial fluid, abdominal fluid, pelvic fluid, ascites, effusion, pelvic washing, gutter washings/scrapings, cul-de-sac fluid/washing, renal pelvic washings, ureter washings, ureteral washings, cyst fluid, synovial fluid, miscellaneous fluid

Each specimen container needs to have a *minimum* of two (2) patient identifiers to be accepted.

- Label container with patient's full name (first and last name), date of birth or medical record number (MRN). Include the specimen source and laterality (right or left) when appropriate, on the container.
- Place fresh specimen into clean, leak-proof container. A minimum of 20 mL is required for collection.
- An accompanying requisition with patient's full name (first and last), date of birth, medical record number (MRN), specimen source, ordering physician's name, date of collection, diagnosis, and pertinent patient history.
- Refrigerate specimens until transport.
- CytoLyt fixative can be added if delayed delivery.
- If **microbiology** is also desired, collect specimen **fresh**, without fixative.