SAMPLE COLLECTION
- SPUTUM

PREPARE PATIENT

- Tell patient to drink plenty of fluids the night before. First morning specimen is preferred.

BEFORE COLLECTION

- Train on procedure
- Check requisition and patient ID
- Get supplies
  - Sterile screw-capped container and tissues
- Label container
  - Patient name, unique identifier, date and time collected
- Wash hands - put on gloves

COLLECTION

- Tell patient to do the following:
  - Sit upright
  - Take three deep breaths,
  - Cough deeply to bring sputum from lungs
  - Spit sputum into the container
  - Do not place mouth on container lip or collect saliva or nasal drainage

AFTER COLLECTION

- Screw lid on tightly
- Place specimen in a biohazard container - transport to the testing laboratory
- Remove gloves - dispose in biohazard container - wash hands

This publication was supported 100% by Cooperative Agreement Number #U60/CD303019 from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.