

# HOSPITAL DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST FINLAND

## SPUTUM SAMPLE FOR BACTERIAL OR FUNGAL CULTURE (Ex-BaktVi 2813, Ex-KolonVi 13540 or SienVi 2631)

This examination is used for identification of abnormal bacterial or fungal growth in sputum.

### Materials

1. Sample container with screw cap (Fig.1). You will get the container from the lab.
2. Plastic bag and sticker for name
3. For sample handling you may use a disposable plastic cup and spoon.

### Procedure

1. Take the sputum sample in the morning before drinking or eating anything.
2. Rinse your mouth with water, do not brush your teeth.
3. The sample must be sputum, **saliva is not suitable**.
4. You may take the sample into the disposable plastic cup and separate the most representative (most mucous containing) parts into the sample container with the help of the disposable plastic spoon.
5. Collect phlegm deep from your lungs into the sample container. At least 2 ml of sample is needed. (The volume of a teaspoon is 2 ml, of a tablespoon 15 ml).
6. Close the container tightly.
7. Please be careful so that the outside of the container doesn't get sample on it.
8. **Write your name, social security number, sampling date and sampling time on the sticker that came with the materials from the lab.**
9. **Attach the sticker with your name to the sample container.**
10. Put each sample container into a separate plastic bag.
11. Keep the sample containers cool, preferably at refrigerator temperature.

Bring the sample container to the laboratory as soon as possible. Many bacteria that cause lung infections do not survive very well when sampled.

Please contact the department or outpatient clinic if you have questions regarding the sampling procedure for this examination.



You may ask for the result of this examination at the hospital unit where you are being treated.

Fig. 1

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This instruction is intended for our patients who are in a care relationship.