Collection of Post Vasectomy Semen Samples

NCH lab performs semen analysis to confirm absence of sperm post vasectomy. NCH laboratory does not perform semen analysis for evaluation of fertility. Patients requesting semen analysis for evaluation of fertility are advised to consult with their provider.

It is recommended that at least one (ideally two) semen specimens are evaluated and show zero sperm before alternative forms of contraception are discontinued.

The first specimen should be brought to the lab 6-8 weeks post vasectomy or after the first 15-20 ejaculations. Refrain from sexual intercourse or masturbation for 2 to 7 days prior to the day of collection. The second specimen can be brought to the lab a week or two later. Specimen cups are given at the clinic or can be picked up in the lab.

Semen samples must be received in the lab before 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday, and within one hour of collection. The sample should be collected by masturbation directly into the container, and without the use of a condom or lubricants. Place the entire semen specimen in the container. Loss of any part of the semen specimen may affect the results.

Label the specimen with name, DOB, date, and time of collection. Loosely applied caps, unlabeled samples, or spilled samples cannot be accepted. Do not refrigerate, freeze, or expose the semen specimen to excessive heat or direct light.