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Partners in Reproductive Health
"A Partnership in Care"
SEMEN ANALYSIS

The semen analysis is used to evaluate the fertility of the male partner. Information including the number of sperm, their motility and structure, and the volume of the semen sample is obtained. Additional tests can be performed, when indicated, to culture the semen for infection and to detect antisperm antibodies.

Patient Instructions:

1. Call to schedule the test. Semen analyses are done during certain hours, an appointment is required. Please let the office know if you plan to produce the sample at home or in the office.
2. Abstain from ejaculation for at least 2 days (48 hours), but not more than 7 days, before producing the sample. Two to six days after having sex is the best time to provide your sample. You will be asked the date of your last ejaculation on the day you produce a sample for analysis.
3. The specimen is obtained by masturbation. Do not use a condom or withdrawal. Do not use any soaps, detergents, creams, or lubricants to aid collection. These agents can damage the sperm. Your partner may assist, but avoid oral or vaginal stimulation.
4. Ejaculate directly into the sterile specimen container provided by our office or laboratory. If there is any spillage, let the office or lab know if it occurred toward the beginning or end of the collection.
5. Samples must be collected in sterile containers and properly labeled. Write your name, your partner's name, your date of birth, date and time of sample collection, and days of sexual abstinence on the label. Keep the container tightly capped.
6. Samples collected at home must be delivered to the office within 1 hour of collection. Keep the container tightly capped and carry the container in an inside pocket or under your arm to keep the specimen at body temperature. Do not expose the container to direct heat. Samples can be collected in our office.
7. Abnormal semen analyses should be repeated for verification. Further male testing may be warranted and physical examination by urologist indicated.
8. These instructions apply for the collection of sperm used for artificial insemination (intrauterine insemination). Sperm samples for artificial insemination should be delivered to the office within 30 minutes if produced at home.