## Salivary Cortisol collection: Patient Instructions PAC



## Collection Instructions: Please read all instructions carefully

## **Key Reminders:**

- **DO NOT** brush teeth before collecting sample.
- **DO NOT** eat or drink for 15 minutes prior to sample collection.
- **DO NOT** touch the swab with your fingers.

This is a time sensitive collection.

It must be done between 11:00 pm and 12:00 am, midnight or should be collected at the precise time(s) prescribed by your physician

## **Specimen Required for Salivary Cortisol**

1. Your physician or the laboratory will have given you a clear plastic capped tube, which contains a synthetic swab. The patient's name & DOB should already be on a label on this tube.



- 2. Remove top cap to expose the swab.
- 3. Place swab directly into mouth by tipping container so swab falls into mouth.
- 4. Do NOT touch the swab with your fingers.
- 5. Keep the swab in your mouth for approximately one minute.
- 6. Roll the swab in your mouth.
- 7. Do NOT chew the swab.
- 8. Spit the swab back into the tube.
- 9. Replace the cap and make sure cap is screwed on tightly.
- 10.Record collection time and refrigerate. Return appropriately labeled specimen to the Laboratory.