

ThinPrep® Pap Collection Requirements

Tips for Reducing Unsatisfactory Pap Specimens

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Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories (PDL) utilizes the Hologic ThinPrep® Pap system with imaging. This automated system creates a Pap slide *directly* from the ThinPrep® Pap vial. The system also aliquots *directly* from the vial for HPV, chlamydia and gonorrhea testing if ordered.

Unsatisfactory Pap specimens can occur when the specimen is contaminated with non-compatible lubricants and/or if the specimen was not transferred to the vial correctly and/or the broom or brush is left in the specimen.

COLLECTION STEPS TO HELP REDUCE/ELIMINATE UNSATISFACTORY PAP COLLECTIONS

LIMIT THE USE OF LUBRICANT: The ThinPrep Pap process is sensitive to a component of some lubricants.

1. Use warm water to lubricate the speculum or use a small amount of compatible lubricant.
2. If you use a lubricant, ensure it is on the Hologic Lubricant Compatibility List.
3. Avoid applying lubricant to the tip of the speculum.

The **Hologic Lubricant Compatibility list** can be found on the following websites:

- Hologic <https://www.hologic.com/thinprep>
- PDL <https://www.pdllabs.com/provider-resources/notifications-guides-and-forms/>

TRANSFER ALL MATERIAL FROM THE COLLECTION DEVICE TO THE VIAL:

1. Do not leave the sample on the brush in the Pap vial for very long; the fixative hardens the material and will make transfer more difficult.
2. For a brush, rotate the brush in the solution 10 times while pushing it against the vial wall.
3. For a broom device, push it into the bottom of the vial 10 times, forcing the bristles apart.
4. Swirl the device vigorously in the solution to further release material.
5. **DISCARD THE BRUSH OR BROOM AFTER THE SPECIMEN IS TRANSFERRED TO VIAL.**

Please refer to Hologic document Protocol: Rovers® Cervix-Brush® Combi device.



DO NOT pop off the head of the collection device and leave in the vial.



DO NOT clip the head of the collection device and leave in the vial.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT PDL CLIENT SERVICES AT 805-879-8100