

Sample Collection Training

Hair Collections

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When collecting Head Hair

Points to bear in mind:

- The sample should be collected from around the crown (call us if this is not possible) as this area has the most regulated growth pattern and will provide more accurate results
- The sample should be collected from an area which is going to be covered by remaining hair whenever possible- this can be achieved by lifting a section of hair and taking the sample from below, as the lifted section of hair falls back this should naturally cover the bald patch.
- The thickness of a head hair sample should be approximately the width of an I-phone charger cable (but we can often “get away” with collecting a little less, especially if you have been requested to collect more than 1 sample). We standardly request that between 1 – 3 separate samples are collected from one client.
- If you are taking more than one sample, then vary the collection site to ensure the bald patches do not "meet up" creating one large patch.
- Always cut as close to the scalp as possible.
- The “cut end” of the hair sample i.e. the end which was closest to the scalp, must be lined up with the purple dot on the foil. This tells the laboratory which is the most recent hair growth.

Head Hair collection Process



Select an area where the bald patch is going to be hidden once the remaining hair falls back in place



Use the plastic guard to help you cut close to the scalp, and only include hairs which have a root within the inner circle of the guard.

Head Hair collection Process



Cut the hair as close as the scalp as possible, so that there is as little hair as possible remaining on the scalp after collection.

If collecting multiple samples from one person, then remember to vary the collection sites to ensure bald patches do not “merge together” creating one large patch!

When collecting body hair

Points to bear in mind:

- Never mix body hair and head hair samples together & always record which part of the body you collected the sample from on the sample envelope.
- Pubic and underarm hair cannot be used for alcohol testing.
- Do not mix hair from different parts of the body e.g. chest and leg hair.
- Use an A4 piece of paper to collect the falling hair.
- Fill the foil with body hair.
- If in doubt or there is not enough hair in the location requested, then call CHG for instruction

Body Hair collection Process

Section 2 - Samples Required

HAIR COLLECTION:

Hair Type: Armpit / pubic hair must not be taken for alcohol analysis.

Length required: Period of analysis: Timframe to include for declared medication:

IF THE TYPE OF HAIR STATED OR THE REQUIRED LENGTH IS NOT AVAILABLE - CALL CRYSTAL HEALTH IMMEDIATELY.

Total no. samples to be collected: } Into the white envelope:
Into the brown envelope: **ALL hair samples must be placed into the white envelope, including the brown B sample envelope.**

Please ensure you have enough foils available to collect the number of sample(s) ordered above (i.e. 1 foil = 1 sample).

- The collection & consent form will instruct which part of the body to collect the hair sample from e.g. leg
- If you do not feel there is enough hair to fill the foil, then call CHG immediately



Use a piece of A4 paper to collect the hair as it falls

Body Hair collection Process



Bend or fold the A4 paper to funnel the hair into the foil



The foil should be filled. If required shave more hair from the same location.

Common mistakes to avoid!



This is a rather large bald patch which has been left. The sample collector was asked to collect 2 samples which appear to have been taken directly next to each other, therefore making the bald patch bigger and more noticeable. Always try to take samples from different areas around the crown to prevent this.

The samples taken also look too large. Make sure that the hairs cut are only those with a root which is within the inner circle of the plastic guard.

Common mistakes to avoid!



This picture shows a bald patch directly on the crown, making it extremely visible. This could easily have been taken from further down the head, meaning that remaining hair would have covered the patch. - this can be achieved by lifting a section of hair and taking the sample from below, as the lifted section of hair falls back this should naturally cover the bald patch.

Common mistakes to avoid!



This picture shows too much hair remaining on the scalp following the collection. Hair should be cut as close to the scalp as possible as seen on the picture below



This picture shows a perfect collection where there is very little hair remaining. If the hair is not cut close to the scalp the results will be inaccurate!