



Saint Mary's Managed Clinical Service  
Division of Gynaecology

## PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

# POST VASECTOMY SEMEN ANALYSIS (PVSA)

This leaflet has been written to inform you of the procedure for a post vasectomy semen analysis (PVSA). The procedure is used to establish whether sperm are present in the semen following your vasectomy surgery. It is essential that you follow post-operative guidelines given to you by your clinician prior to this test.

## WHAT IS A PVSA?

A PVSA is a laboratory test where ejaculate (semen) is examined for the presence of sperm. The test is performed 12 weeks post-surgery and after you have ejaculated a minimum of 20 times. Laboratories should routinely examine samples within 3 hours of production (if it is your first test). If non-motile sperm are detected during the first test, further samples must be examined within 1 hour of production so that we can assess sperm motility. The department can offer you a room on-site to produce your sample in to support this.

## ARRANGING YOUR APPOINTMENT

If you have been asked to have this test by your Healthcare Professional (HCP) you can produce your sample at home and bring it in to the andrology department. If you choose this option, you must ensure you keep your sample as close to body temperature as possible during transportation. The sample should be transported immediately after production as any big changes in temperature may affect sperm viability and motility.

Most clinicians will arrange your appointment for you. If you do not receive an appointment within 12 weeks from your operation date, please Email andrology on [mft.andrology.lab@nhs.net](mailto:mft.andrology.lab@nhs.net). If you do not hear from the hospital within 5 days, please telephone **0161 276 6473**. If you have been asked to arrange the appointment with us, please contact us on the information above. The address can be found at the end of this leaflet. We cannot accept patient samples if an appointment has not been made. If your appointment has already been booked for you, attend on the date/time provided to you.

A sample production room is available if you prefer to do this on-site. Please ask us when you contact us, and we will arrange this with you.

A complete semen sample is essential for accurate analysis. You will need to bring the sample here **within 3 hours** of it being produced. It may be rejected if we do not receive it in this timeframe.

**USING A PUBLIC TOILET TO PASS YOUR SAMPLE IS AGAINST THE LAW.**

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING YOUR SEMEN SAMPLE

Please follow these instructions carefully as anything outside of this guide may impact your results.

- You should stop masturbating/having sexual intercourse for between 48 hours and 7 days before the appointment.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, drying fully afterwards.
- You should only produce the sample by masturbation into a container that we have provided.
- Do not use lubrication or a condom to produce your sample as this can kill sperm.
- The complete ejaculate must be collected into the container otherwise the sample will be discarded and another appointment will need to be arranged for you.
- Label the sample container with your first name, last name, date of birth and date/time the sample was produced.
- Ensure that the lid is screwed on to the container properly.
- Place the container into the bag provided.
- Complete the sample request card provided.

Please **do not** post the sample to us as we will reject this sample and you will have to be given a new appointment.

There should be a request form in your pack. This is needed by the andrology team to accept and interpret your results. If you are producing on-site, we will give you this on the day. Please complete as much of this card as possible, including your information and the healthcare professional that has requested this for you.

## RESULTS OF TEST

Results will be sent to the healthcare professional that referred you within **7 – 10 working days**. We do not routinely give results to patients, although we can support your healthcare professional with clinical advice if required.

## HOW TO FIND US

The andrology department is in Old Saint Mary's Hospital (not the new building), within the Department of Reproductive Medicine on the first floor.

Address of the department is given below:

**Andrology Laboratories  
Old Saint Mary's Hospital  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9WL**

Opening hours for enquiries:

Monday to Friday – 08.00 am to 04.00 pm.

We are not open on Saturdays, Sundays, or bank holidays.

More information on how to get here and other details such as car parking can be found on the website – <https://mft.nhs.uk/saint-marys/>

Please come to the main entrance and press the intercom (if the door is locked). If the door is open, proceed to the first floor and press the bell outside Andrology reception.

For disabled access, please telephone the department in advance (0161 276 6473). We have a separate entrance just off Oxford Road. Please press the intercom on arrival.

## PRIVACY POLICY

Details of our privacy policy can be found on our website: <https://mft.nhs.uk/saint-marys/services/gynaecology/reproductive-medicine/andrology/>

## COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

If you have any compliments or complaints, please contact our department or Trust patient advice and liaison service (PALS). PALS information can be found here: <https://mft.nhs.uk/saint-marys/pals/>

## TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION SERVICES

It is our policy that family, relatives or friends cannot interpret for patients. Should you require an interpreter ask a member of staff in advance of your appointment.

## CONTACT DETAILS



0161 276 6473



[mft.andrology.lab@nhs.net](mailto:mft.andrology.lab@nhs.net)



<https://mft.nhs.uk/saint-marys/services/gynaecology/reproductive-medicine/andrology/>