

DERMATOPHYTE/KOH TEST COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

In order to produce a meaningful laboratory test result for Dermatophyte culture or KOH testing, please follow the collection instructions below:

- 1) Clean the infected site with 70% alcohol (or sterile water if inflamed) to eliminate body bacteria. Allow to air dry.
- 2) Specimens are to be collected in the Dermatophyte kit supplied by LifeLabs.
 - a. **SKIN:** The active periphery of the infected site should be scraped with a scalpel blade onto the black paper provided in the Dermatophyte kit. Carefully fold the black paper so the skin scrapings are enveloped inside.
 - b. **NAIL:** Clip the affected nails with a nail clipper or small scissors onto the black paper provided in the Dermatophyte kit. Any debris under the nail should also be collected. Carefully fold the black paper so the nail clippings are enveloped inside.
 - c. **HAIR:** Remove lustreless or broken hairs from the infected area of the scalp by plucking hairs from the root. Some skin scrapings from the scalp should be included. Place onto the black paper provided in the Dermatophyte kit. Carefully fold the black paper so the hair and any scalp skin scrapings are enveloped inside.
- 3) Place the folded black paper in the envelope provided and label with the patient's name, DOB or PHN*, date, specimen site and type. Do not label as just a skin or nail, the exact site is required. i.e. 'skin from elbow', 'skin from chest', 'right big toenail'.

**Please Note: All specimens must be labelled with at least two unique patient identifiers (e.g. patient name plus date of birth or patient personal health number). This is a requirement of the Diagnostic Accreditation Program, which governs the operation of all BC Laboratories including LifeLabs.*

- 4) Store and transport specimens at room temperature – do not refrigerate.
- 5) Complete the requisition with the test request(s) and the specific collection site.



To order the collection kits, please submit a Clinic and Physician's Supply Requisition to LifeLabs or call the Physician's Supplies Hotline at 604-412-4481 (Lower Mainland) 250-881-3100 ext. 2124 (Victoria), 1-800-304-4011 ext 2124 (other Island locations) or (250) 374-1644 (Kamloops)

DERMATOPHYTE COLLECTION KIT

	DERMATOPHYTE KOH TEST COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS			Page 1 of 1
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