

## Urine Testing After Surgery

- It is normal to have symptoms related to urinating (peeing) after surgery. Having any of these symptoms does not mean you have an infection.
- **You may:**
  - › Need to pee more often
  - › Have pain or burning when peeing
  - › Need to pee suddenly (right away)
  - › See blood in your urine (pee)
- If these symptoms last longer than 4 days, you may have an infection. Take a sample of your urine using the bottle and requisition form given to you before leaving the hospital.

### Instructions

1. Print your **full name, date of birth, and health card number** on the sample bottle's label.
2. Wash your hands well before collecting your sample.
3. Wash your vagina or penis with soap and water before collecting your sample.
4. Take the cap off the collection bottle. **Do not** touch the inside of the cap or bottle.
5. Pull back your labia (the skin folds around the opening of your vagina) or foreskin (the fold of skin over the tip of the penis). **Do not** let your skin touch the bottle as you pee.
6. Start peeing into the toilet, then stop. Holding the sample bottle **away from your skin**, start to pee into the bottle. After the bottle is filled halfway, finish peeing in the toilet.
7. Wash your hands well.
8. Put the cap on the collection bottle tightly. **Do not** touch the inside of the cap or bottle.

9. As soon as you collect your sample, drop it and your requisition form off at your local testing drop-off site.
  - › **To find drop-off sites, visit:**
    - › [www.nshealth.ca](http://www.nshealth.ca) and search “Specimen testing”
- **If you cannot drop off your sample within 1 hour, put it in the fridge until you can drop it off.**
- Your urologist (specialist) will get the results of your sample.
  - › If the results show you have an infection, your urologist’s office will call you.

**Call your primary health care provider (family doctor or nurse practitioner) or your urologist’s office right away if you have:**

- › Fever (temperature above 38 °C or 100.4 °F) or chills that are not controlled after taking acetaminophen (Tylenol®), or that last for more than 48 hours (2 days)
- › Very bad nausea (feeling sick to your stomach) that does not go away
- › Vomiting (throwing up) that does not go away

**If you cannot reach your primary health care provider or your urologist’s office, call 811 or go to the nearest Emergency Department right away.**

**Urologist:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Office phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

Find all patient education resources here:  
[www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources](http://www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources)

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time:  
Call 811 or visit: <https://811.novascotia.ca>

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