

Submitting Endocervical Brush Samplings in CytoLyt™

This procedure is not a Pap test. Its cost is similar to that of endocervical curettage. The strategy behind its use is to obtain both a biopsy specimen and an excellent cytologic preparation in a single specimen.

Indication

The Cytobrush® (“bottle” brush) can be utilized as a useful biopsy instrument and as an adjunct (and sometimes alternative) to curettage sampling of the endocervix. For the occasional patients who will have atypical glandular cells of undetermined significance (AGUS) in routine Pap smears, cervical brushing can serve as a follow-up procedure to atypical endocervical cell Pap findings. Rather than place the specimen in formalin, we ask that these types of specimens be placed into the special cytology fixative CytoLyt. The agitated sample is placed into our ThinPrep instrument to prepare a well-preserved thin layer of cells for cytologic evaluation. The tissue fragments are used to make a cell block and histologic sections

Preparation

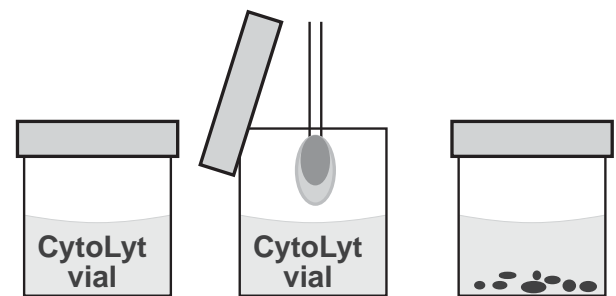
- Cytobrush (“bottle” brush)
- 10 cc of CytoLyt in elongate tube (provided on request)
- Green lid vial of CytoLyt with wider mouth (if ECC also to be performed and curette is too large to fit into CytoLyt tube)
- Endocervical curette (if curettage also performed)

Procedure

1. If both curettage and brushing are planned, perform the curettage first. If the curette is too big for the mouth of a CytoLyt tube, rinse the biopsy sample into a small container of CytoLyt with the wide mouth. (Figure 10)
2. Insert the Cytobrush well into the endocervical canal and twist two full rotations.
3. Remove Cytobrush and place instrument directly into elongate 10-mm tube of CytoLyt. Do not make smears of the brush. (Figure 11.)
4. Snip the plastic handle of the Cytobrush so that it will fit into the tube of fixative. (Figure 11.)

5. Seal fixative containers tightly. Label outside of containers with patient’s name and “ECC.”
6. Submit with a properly completed cytology requisition as “ECC in CytoLyt.”

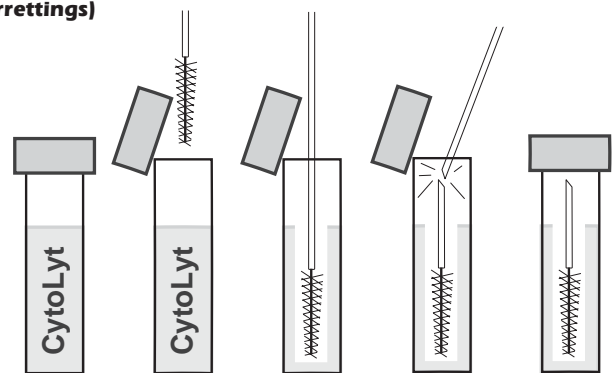
FIGURE 10: Rinsing Curette in CytoLyt



If curette is too large for a CytoLyt tube, rinse it in a CytoLyt vial with a larger mouth.

CytoLyt vial with ECC: replace lid tightly.

FIGURE 11: Using the CytoLyt Tube for brushings alone (no curettings)



Immerse brush in CytoLyt, clip brush handle to fit tube, replace cap tightly.