

Healthcare Practitioner's Guide to Home-based HPV Self-collection



VCS Pathology

WHAT IS HOME-BASED SELF-COLLECTION?

Home-based Self-collection is an alternative to clinic based cervical screening for patients who experience difficulty attending an in-person consultation. VCS Pathology referring practitioners can request home self-collection kits to be mailed directly to eligible screening patients who are due or overdue for screening, following a telehealth consultation.

PROCESS FOR HOME-BASED SELF-COLLECTION

1. Telehealth consultation

Home-based Self-collection can be offered via a telehealth consult if your patient is eligible for cervical screening and can't attend your practice. Explain the process to your patient, and possible follow-up requirements.

2. Send a request to VCS Pathology

State 'Home-based Self-collection' on the pathology request form, and indicate patient's preferred address. Send the request to VCS Pathology by Fax to (03) 9349 1949, or via our couriers.

3. Self-collection kit mailed to patient

VCS sends a self-collection kit containing swab and instructions directly to your patient's preferred address, with a prepaid return Express Post envelope.

4. Patient takes the sample at home

The patient takes the sample and mails to VCS Pathology. Patient documents the collection date on the sample tube and request form.

5. Results sent to your practice

If the patient has not returned their sample to VCS Pathology within one month, our team will contact you so you can follow-up with your patient.

6. Discuss results with your patient

You contact the patient to discuss results and provide appropriate follow up for patients in whom HPV is detected.

IMPORTANT!

Please remind your patient to document the date of collection and return the sample promptly.

The laboratory must receive the sample within 28 days from the date of collection.



WHAT IS IN THE HOME TEST KIT?

- ✓ Specimen biohazard bag
- ✓ Self-collection swab (Copan Flocked swab 552C or 552.80C)
- ✓ A copy of the pathology request form completed by the healthcare practitioner. Note: a 'sign and date here' sticker will be attached to the Medicare section of the request form. This is where the patient signs and records the date of collection, as well as on the sample tube.
- ✓ A prepaid Express Post envelope addressed to VCS Pathology
- ✓ A double-sided instruction sheet covering the collection, packaging and postage to VCS Pathology

Contact VCS Pathology for a sample home test kit that you can show to your patients during a video consultation.

CONTACT US

For more information on the Home-based Self-collection service, contact VCS Pathology on (03) 9250 0309 or via email dataqueries@vcs.org.au