

# Semen analysis for infertility and post-vasectomy

## Patient instructions

You are strongly advised to produce semen samples using our dedicated specimen collection facility next to the laboratory to ensure the specimens are processed in a timely manner.

You **must** make an appointment even if you intend to produce your sample offsite. Please note that it is illegal to perform sexual act in public toilet.

You are required to have your Doctor/GP test request form (or AcuRX mobile phone text request) when you attend your appointment. We will need this to process your sample and report results to your Doctor/GP. Our laboratory address is given below:

**Croydon University Hospital  
Blood Sciences Laboratory  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Woodcroft Wing (Purple Zone)  
Mayday Road,  
Croydon  
Surrey CR7 7YE**

## To book the laboratory sample collection room

- book online at <https://www.swlpath.nhs.uk/booking/>
- if you have any enquiries regarding your booking, telephone 0208 401 3000 ext. 5560 on Monday to Friday between the hours of 09:00 - 16:00, or email the laboratory at [ch-tr.andrology@nhs.net](mailto:ch-tr.andrology@nhs.net)

If you intend to produce your sample off-site, you must collect an approved sample collection pot and instructions from the laboratory.

## When to collect your sample

**Both fertility and post–vasectomy** samples must be collected after a minimum of 2 days and a maximum of 7 days abstinence from ejaculation (sexual intercourse or masturbation).

Samples collected outside these abstinence periods will not be analysed and you will be asked to produce a repeat sample.

The **first post-vasectomy sample** must be collected after a minimum of 12 weeks and 20 ejaculations after the operation was performed.

## How to collect your sample

Carefully wash hands and penis, especially the area beneath the foreskin.

Produce sample by masturbation into the approved wide-neck container supplied by laboratory. You **must not use** condoms, sheaths or coitus interruptus to produce your sample. All of the sample must be collected into the pot provided by the laboratory. Samples collected in unapproved containers will not be processed. If any of the sample is spilt, we may ask you to produce a repeat sample after 2 to 7 days abstinence from ejaculation.

Ensure the semen container lid is sealed securely to avoid specimen leakage.

Label the sample container with the following information:

- First name
- Surname
- Date of birth
- The date and time that you collected the sample

## Giving us your sample

### Infertility samples

Semen collected in our dedicated sample collection room must be given to the laboratory without delay, and in any case within 10 minutes of collection.

The following additional requirements apply to Infertility assessment samples collected off-site.

- Before collecting your semen sample, the sample collection pot must be at ambient temperature (20-37°C).
- Ensure your sample is kept at body temperature (for example in your pocket) during delivery to the laboratory.
- Your sample must be handed to the laboratory within 30 minutes of production and at your agreed appointment time.

### Post vasectomy samples ONLY

Samples collected in our dedicated collection room must be given to the laboratory within 10 minutes of collection.

Samples collected off-site using approved container provided by the laboratory must be handed in within **TWO hours** of production and at your agreed appointment time. Ensure the sample is kept at ambient temperature (20-37°C) during delivery to the laboratory.

You will be asked to fill in a form providing information about your sample.

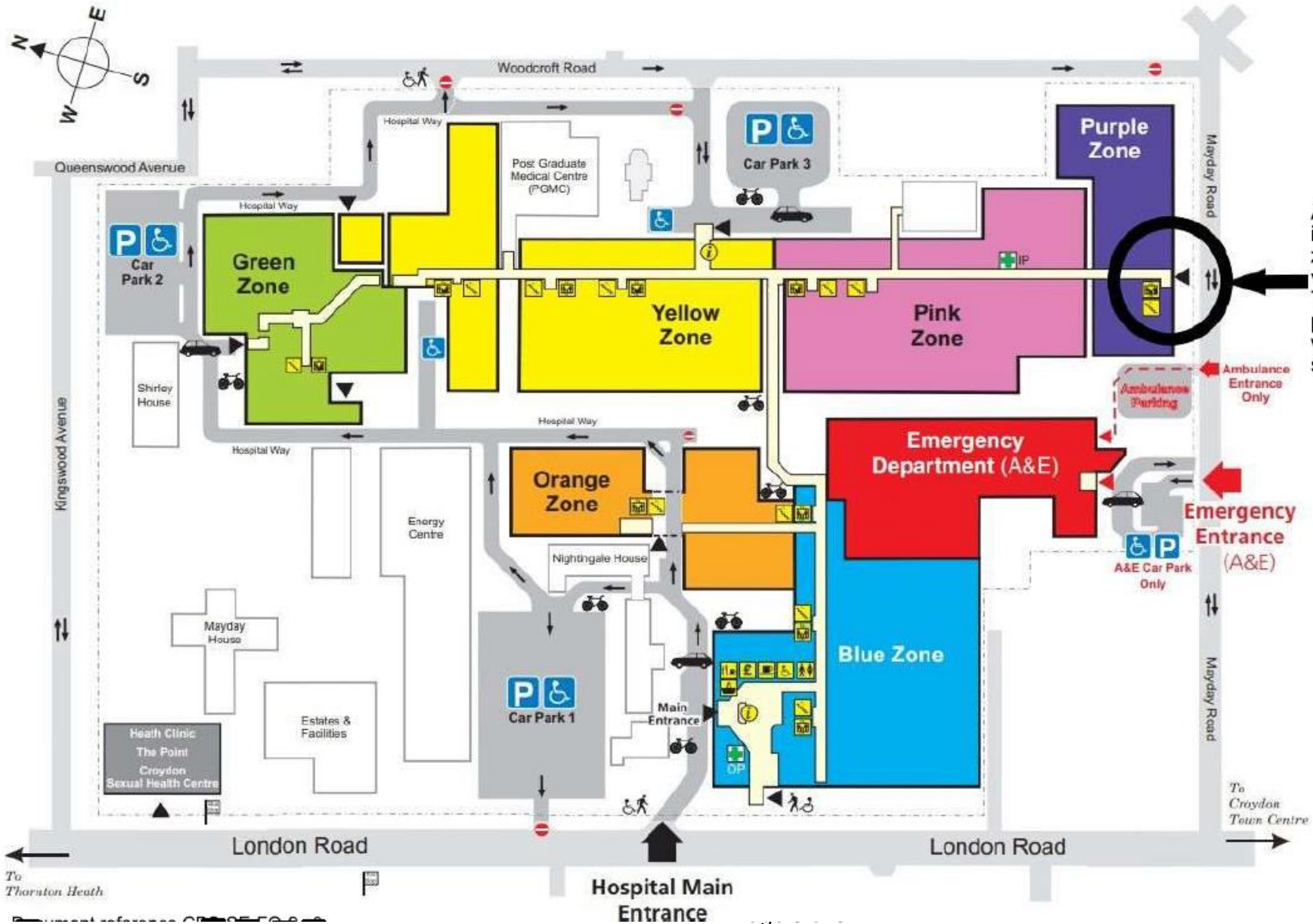
Use your smart phone to take a picture of the sample information form. This is your sample receipt.

Your doctor will contact you once they have received your results.

**Please note that appointments missed without cancellation will cost the NHS £150**

# Croydon University Hospital

530 London Road, Croydon, CR7 7YE Tel: 020 8401 3000



Andrology laboratory is located in purple zone. Easy access is via Mayday entrance. Take the stairs/lift to pathology reception, where a member of staff will see you.



Please remember