

Urinalysis

LCC IPC Guidance

Next Review October 2025

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Version:	4
Developed by:	The IPC Team on behalf of the Lancashire County Council
Date Ratified:	Oct 2024

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Essential equipment

- Urinalysis testing sticks
- Appropriate urine specimen pot
- Non-sterile gloves
- Apron

Procedure

- Discuss the need and indication for the procedure with the service user and obtain consent.
- Ensure a suitable, private location to maintain privacy and dignity.
- Decontaminate hands.
- Put on an apron and gloves as per PPE guidance.
- Clean the genital area to minimise contamination of specimen with other organisms.
- Ask the service user to begin voiding first stream of urine into a urinal, toilet or bedpan.
- Place the wide-necked sterile container into the urine stream without interrupting the flow.
- If taking the specimen from a urinary catheter, it should be collected using an aseptic technique via the catheter port.
- Dip the urinalysis testing strip into the urine for no longer than 1 second. The strip should be completely immersed in the urine and then removed immediately.
- Run the edge of the strip along the urine container.
- Hold the stick at an angle.
- Wait the required time before reading the strip against the colour chart, usually 60 seconds.
- Dispose of the urine sample appropriately e.g. down the toilet.
- Dispose of the urinalysis stick in the appropriate waste stream.
- Remove PPE.
- Decontaminate hands.