Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

How to Collect a Urine Sample for Your Drug Screening

This information explains how to collect a urine (pee) sample for your drug screening.

About drug screenings

If you're taking opioid pain medicine, we want to make sure you're taking a safe amount. We will ask you for a urine sample 1 or more times a year. These days will be chosen randomly. You will give your urine sample at your Anesthesia Pain Service appointment before you see your doctor. Your urine sample will be checked for medicine and other drugs to make sure you're safe during your treatment. Commonly prescribed opioid medicine is listed at the end of this resource.

Your urine collection kit

Your Patient Care Technician or nurse will give you a urine collection kit. The kit will include:

- 1 urine cup
- 1 pair of disposable gloves
- 1 plastic bag

The urine cup has a thin line about halfway up the outside of the cup. This line marks how much urine is needed for the urine sample.

How to collect your urine sample

1. Open the empty urine cup. Set the lid and cup down.
2. Put on the disposable gloves.
3. Start urinating (peeing) into the toilet as usual.
4. Once there's a steady stream of urine (usually after a few seconds), move the cup into your urine stream to catch the urine.
5. Remove the cup once it's filled to the line on the outside of the cup.
6. Once you're done urinating, tightly screw the lid onto the cup.
7. If the outside of the cup has urine on it, wipe it dry with a paper towel. Put the cup into the plastic bag and close the bag.
8. Take off your gloves and throw them away.
9. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
10. Give the cup to the Patient Care Technician.

Your doctor will give you the results of your drug screening at your next appointment. They will not give you the results over the phone.

Commonly prescribed opioid medicine

Here are some commonly prescribed opioid medicine. There are more.

Commonly Prescribed Opioid Medicine		
oxycodone (Percocet, Oxycontin®)	hydromorphone (Dilaudid®)	tramadol (Ultram®)
fentanyl (Duragesic®)	methadone	oxymorphone (Opana®)
hydrocodone (Vicodin®)	morphine (Duramorph)	tapentadol (Nucynta®)

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

How to Collect a Urine Sample for Your Drug Screening - Last updated on June 25, 2024
All rights owned and reserved by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center