

33. Urine sample

Why is there a form to complete when a urine sample is dropped off at the surgery?

Urine samples are processed differently depending on what is being tested. The most common reason for checking a urine sample is to check for an infection. They are also a routine examination in annual diabetes reviews. Urine samples are tested as part of investigations for other conditions too.

Samples are often collected in different containers depending on the requirements of the Laboratory hence it is important that we know why the sample has been dropped off.

Is there a reason for introducing the form now?

We are continuously reviewing our policies to ensure good practice and we have found instances where the incorrect container was used or the wrong test was requested resulting in delay in treatment as the test has to be repeated. Based on new guidance, we are now able to treat urine infections without waiting for Lab results based on symptoms and the results of a dip test at the surgery and recording symptoms helps with this process.

Should a form be filled out every time a sample is brought in?

If you have discussed this with the doctor or nurse and been told to drop off a sample, then your symptoms will have been recorded and the form is not required but please ensure you have labelled the sample pot with your name and date of birth to avoid any confusion.

If dropping off a sample please complete this form

Patients name		Date of birth	
What are your symptoms?			
When did symptoms start?			
Have you tried 'over the counter' medication?	YES/NO (delete as necessary)		
If 'yes' what is the name of the medication			