

 	<b>Allegato</b>	<b>All-SDF.LAB03.51</b>
	<b>SPUTUM MICROBIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION</b>	<b>Pagina 1 di 1</b>
		<b>Aggiornato il: 05/07/2024</b>

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PATIENT

- Provide a wide-mouth container with screw-cap.
- Write the patient's surname, first name and birth date.
- Collect the specimen in the morning. It is necessary to be fasting.
- Remove any dentures.
- Clean accurately the oral cavity with abundant rinsing and gargling (neither mouthwashes nor disinfectants should be used).
- Collect the sputum directly in the sterile container after a few coughs (the material should come from the lower airways and be as little as possible contaminated by saliva).
- Close the container taking care not to touch the internal walls to maintain its sterility and deliver it to the Laboratory as soon as possible. In case delivery cannot be immediate it is necessary to store the sample in the refrigerator at 2 – 8°C for a maximum of 12 hours.

For subjects with difficulty collecting sputum due to inability of the cough reflex or poor bronchial secretion, we recommend the administration of expectorant mucolytics in the two days before the exam.

**N.B. Antibiotic therapies can interfere with the outcome of the test and must be reported to the Laboratory**