Urine for Mycobacteria (including TB)

Container:
Plain 24 hour urine container (no preservative)

Minimum volume required:
Full early morning specimen

Guide to collection:
Specimens should be taken before anti-tuberculosis therapy is started. These samples should be collected in the early morning on 3 consecutive days (special containers can be requested from the Pathology department).

Transport, storage and special handling needs:
Specimens should be labelled as high risk and transported to the laboratory as soon as possible. If processing is delayed refrigeration is preferable to storage at ambient temperature. Delays of greater than 48 hours are undesirable.

Tests performed:
- Microscopy for AAFB
- Culture

Turnaround time:
- Microscopy 1-3 days
- Culture 42 days
Significant findings telephoned out as appropriate

Comments:
(including instructions for high risk samples & factors known to affect test)
If urgent processing of specimen is necessary please discuss with the duty microbiologist. Please mark on the request card that specimen is high risk.

Processed out of hours/on call:
No