

Let's Talk About...

Urine collection for boys

Collecting urine (pee) from children is a common procedure. Tests done on urine samples can tell healthcare providers how a child's body is working. Find out how to collect urine from your child.

What do I do before I collect the urine?

Before you collect the urine, get a sterile urine collection container or a urine bag and some clean wipes from the clinic. If you are at home and can't get a sterile collection container, use a clean jar. Wash the jar with hot, soapy water, then rinse the jar well.

If you don't have wipes to clean your child's penis, use a clean washcloth with soap and water. Do not use lotions, powders, or oils on your child's penis before you collect the urine sample.

How do I collect urine?

It is important that the urine you collect is clean. The following steps will help you collect a clean urine sample.

Infant boys

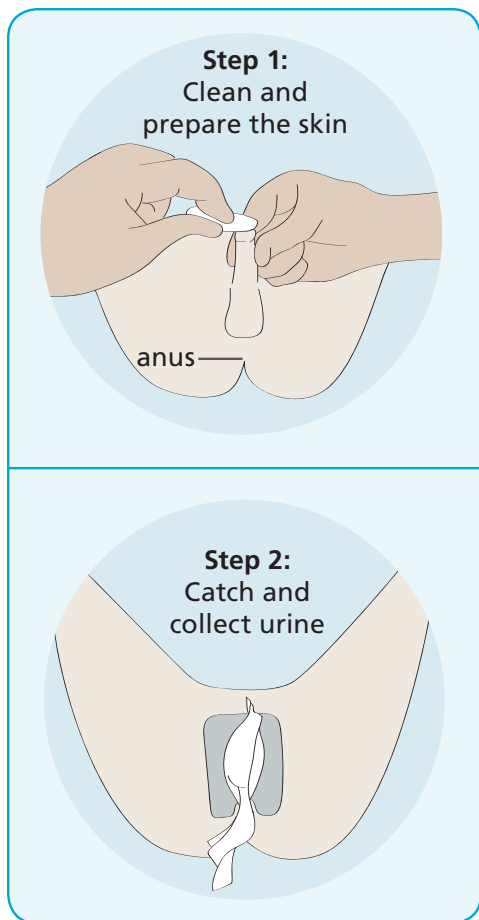
- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Gently wash the penis with wipes. Use two wipes to clean the skin well (see step 1).
- Let the penis dry briefly before applying the urine bag.
- To apply the urine bag, remove the paper from the back of the bag and press the sticky side around the base of penis. The penis must be inside the bag (see step 2).
- If your baby isn't urinating (peeing), try feeding him or holding him close to you. You may have to keep the bag around his penis for a while until he urinates. It is helpful to keep your baby still so the bag does not fall off. If he has not urinated within 30 minutes after the bag has been applied, remove the bag and attach a new one.



- As soon as your baby produces one tablespoon or more of urine, remove the bag gently and seal it. You may also drain the urine from the bag into a sterile urine collection container or clean jar. Do not touch the inside of the container or the inside of the lid.

Older boys

- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Remove the lid from the sterile cup. Place the lid on a clean surface, within easy reach, with the inside of the lid facing up.
- Wash the head of your son's penis gently with two wipes. If your son is uncircumcised, pull back the foreskin only if it moves easily (usually by 4–6 years old).
- Have him start to urinate into the toilet first. Catch about one tablespoon or more of urine in the sterile cup after he has starting urinating. Take the cup away before he is finished urinating. Be careful not to put your fingers inside the cup or inside the lid.
- Place and secure the lid on the cup, and wipe off the outside of it.



Notes

What do I do with the urine sample after I collect it?

If you are at home, label the container with your child’s name, birthday, and the time you collected the urine. Keep the urine sample in a refrigerator or cooler. Bring it to the clinic or office as soon as possible. Urine can be refrigerated or cooled for 24 hours. You might need to put the urine into a portable cooler on a bag of ice if your trip to the clinic takes longer than 1 hour.

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