

### **Collecting a urine sample to identify MYCOBACTERIUM (BK)**

- To collect the urine sample, use a sterile container that has a wide opening with a screw-on lid that is provided by the laboratory or can also be purchased in a pharmacy.
- Carefully wash hands and the external genital area with water and soap; rinse thoroughly and then dry.
- Open the container without touching the inside.
- Collect at least 40 ml of first morning urine in the container, avoiding any contact with the external genital area while collecting the sample.
- Immediately close the container.
- Bring the sample to the laboratory as soon as possible to ensure mycobacterium survival and to avoid other contaminated microorganisms from multiplying. If the sample is not brought to the laboratory within one hour from the time of collection, it must be kept in a refrigerator at +4°C, for a maximum of 48 hours.
- Collect three samples, each on a different day.
- A 24 hour urine sample is NOT SUITABLE for this type of test.
- A sample that contains less than 40ml is NOT SUITABLE.

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