



Accredited to  
ISO 15189:2022

# Nipple Discharge

## Synonyms

Nipple aspirate, nipple discharge/smear.

## Clinical Indication

At clinician's discretion.

## Part of Profile / See Also

N/A

## Request Form

Manual request form or ICE request

## Availability / Frequency of Analysis

On request.

## Turnaround Time

Reports are normally issued within 4-6 days of receipt. Samples requiring extra work may take longer, please contact the lab for further information on delayed reports ([01268 524900 Ext:3033](tel:01268524900)).

## Patient Preparation

As per clinical requirements.

## Sample Requirements

### Specimen Type

Material obtained should be spread onto a glass slide. Prepared slides must be fixed immediately in alcohol fixative or air dried (preferably one of each) before dispatch to the laboratory. Slides must be labelled in pencil with the patient's name, [Date of Birth \(D.O.B\)](#) and NHS number or Hospital number and with an indication as to the method of fixation (e.g. F for fixed and AD for air-dried). The slides must be sent to the laboratory in a slide transport box. [Please note that samples failing to meet these criteria will be given attempt to contact requester for the correction of error and sign disclaimer but failing to this may result in rejection of sample.](#)

### Volume

Slide(s)

### Container

Slide transport container.

The slides should be sent to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection.

## Reference Range & Units

N/A

## Interferences

Failure to promptly fix or air-dry slides during sample collection will result in poorly preserved preparations.

Slides which are not clearly labelled with the method of preparation (fixed or air-dried) may be processed with the incorrect stain leading to delays in reporting.

## Interpretation & Clinical

### Decision Value (if applicable)

N/A

## References

N/A

## Test code

NIPDI

## Lab Handling

Store at room temperature.

## Specimen Transport

**From Basildon Hospital:** Ward and clinic samples should be taken to the Pathology Specimen Reception hatch on Level C.



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**From Southend Hospital:** Southend Hospital: Ward and clinic samples to Pathology Reception in the Essential Services Lab on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in the Pink Zone.

**GP/Community Samples:** All GP work is collected by the Courier Service and brought to the address below.

### Location of Laboratory

The Diagnostic (Non-Gynae) Cytology Laboratory is located at:  
Cellular Pathology Department  
Basildon University Hospital  
Nethermayne  
Basildon  
SS16 5NL

### Contact numbers

**Cellular Pathology Tel:** 01268 524 900 Ext: 8888/ 3033  
Open 8.30am-5.00pm; Monday – Friday excluding Bank Holidays.