

# 24-Hour Urine Test

A 24-hour urine test shows how well your kidneys are working. You must collect all urine that you pass in a 24-hour period for this test.

Read these directions carefully. If you have any questions, contact your provider before starting this test.

## To Prepare

- You will get a large bottle to collect your urine.
- Put your name on the bottle. There may be a label for you to write on.
- Some tests need a chemical added to the bottle when you begin the test.
- If any urine is spilled or not collected, you will need to start over with a new bottle.
- Do not get toilet paper or stool in the urine.
- Keep the chemical and bottle of urine away from children and pets.
- Keep the collected urine cool or refrigerated. Do not freeze.
- Keep the container in a safe place where it will not spill or be exposed to light.

## During the Test

Do not exercise more than usual while you are collecting your urine.

Some tests require you to restrict your diet or certain medicines. Your nurse will let you know if this is needed for the test ordered for you.

## How to Collect Your Urine

1. To start, empty your bladder and flush that urine. Write down this time as the start of your 24-hour urine test. It is often easiest to start when you first get up and go to the bathroom to urinate.
  - Get a clean cup or container to urinate into. You may be given a container that fits under the toilet seat to catch your urine. Be sure to sit enough forward to make sure all your urine goes into the container and not into the toilet water.
  - If you have a chemical to add for your test, pour it in the bottle.
2. For the next 24 hours, urinate in the cup or container and carefully pour the urine into the large bottle. Keep the bottle in the refrigerator or cool it in ice, but do not freeze it.
3. At the end of the 24 hours, urinate one more time. Put the urine into the bottle.
4. Bring the bottle of urine to the lab the day you finish collecting your urine with your lab slip.

**For Example:**

1. At 7:00 AM, urinate but do not save this urine. This is the start time of your test.
2. Collect all your urine for the rest of the 24 hours.
3. At 7:00 AM the next day, urinate and put this urine into the bottle.
4. Bring the bottle of urine to the lab.

Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.