



## Gynaecologic Cytology Specimen Containers

Pathlab occasionally encounter leaking SurePath vials which have been submitted for cervical cytology and possible HPV testing.

Understandably container leakage is associated with a number of clinical risks. Within the current environment a substantial volume leakage raises a significant risk of a compromised cytology or HPV result. Any leakage introduces the potential for cross contamination, potentially introducing a false positive HPV test result.

The anticipated introduction of primary HPV testing increases the clinical risk associated with compromised HPV results and accordingly the draft standards require rejection of **all** leaking containers.

Following a review of the possible consequences of a contamination event, Pathlab have chosen to adopt the draft standard for current practice. Whereas previously Pathlab would have accepted for processing, containers showing some minor leakage, please know we are now **unable to accept any leaking cervical cytology vials**.

Effective immediately, any leaking vials will be rejected from our testing process, with a recollect then required from the patient.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions pertaining to this matter.

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CLINICAL UPDATE



Please ensure all members of your institution  
receive a copy of this clinical update.