

# Collection & Shipping Instructions for Nail & Paronychia Pathogens



Please follow the instructions below to accurately complete the requisition. For additional assistance, please call 903.805.9955.

## Step 1: Advanta Genetics Requisition

The requisition can be pre-populated with most of the patient's information (by Technician/Nurse Staff/Front office staff).

**Please verify it is correct, and make any necessary changes.**

**If using online orders, please complete all necessary/required fields. To complete the paper requisition form:**

Enter Date Collected and Patient Signature on the requisition. This is REQUIRED INFORMATION.

1. Physician's Name, Date of Collection, Patient's Name, Gender, DOB, & DOI (Date of Injury – if applicable/Workers' Comp)
2. Diagnosis Code (ICD-10): Primary - Chief Complaint, Secondary - Supplemental Diagnosis
3. Patient's Signature & Date
4. Patient's Current Medications
5. Panel Selection/Provider's Orders
6. Nail & Paronychia Pathogens Test Sample Information
7. Physician's Signature

## Step 2: Nail & Paronychia Pathogens Specimen Collection and Preparation

**Important Info:** Collect affected nail(s) and paronychia soft tissue/debris samples using standard aseptic/sterile technique currently in use at your practice. For nail clippers utilized directly from an autoclave pouch, no sterile saline rinse is required prior to nail clipping. For nail clippers which have been autoclaved, and then placed in a cold, sterile holding container, rinse clippers with sterile saline prior to clipping nails.

**Do NOT** use an alcohol-based or other disinfectant wipe on affected area prior to sample collection. *This could preclude identification of important pathogenic microbes, which might be present in the site's "bio-film."*

**To ensure safety and validity of the sample, it is important to follow the instructions provided below:**

1. Clip affected nail(s). Collect clippings on sterile gauze/paper or equivalent.
2. Cut intact nail(s) into sections approximately 3-5mm in length.
3. Transfer nail(s) to provided specimen cup.
4. Using an appropriately sized sterile surgical blade, scrape affected subungual/periungual debris/tissue from the site directly into the molecular transport tube (or collect on sterile gauze/paper, and then transfer to transport tube). Collection of BOTH nail material and periungual material maximizes diagnostic yield and ensures that both pathogenic fungi and pathogenic bacteria are detected.
5. Securely tighten the cup.
6. Place a label containing two patient identifiers on the cup.
7. Place cup in the specimen bag. **The collection process is now complete and ready for shipping.**

## Step 3: Ship the Specimen to Advanta Genetics

1. Please deliver to lab within 24 hours.
2. Place sealed specimen bags into a UPS/FedEx Clinical Pack included in your kit (5-8 cups per bag), if shipping.
3. Place UPS/FedEx Clinical Pack into UPS/FedEx Clinical Box, if shipping.
4. Separate label from backing and place on the UPS/FedEx box, if shipping.
5. Call UPS/FedEx to schedule your pickup (if UPS/FedEx is not already coordinated with your clinic). **If local account, please contact lab for courier pick-up: 903.805.9955**

**THE HUMAN ADVANTAGE**  
IN LABORATORY TESTING

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