

VALLEYCARE
OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS
RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES - ADULT
POLICY & PROCEDURE

NUMBER: 839

VERSION: 2

SUBJECT/TITLE: SPUTUM INDUCTION

POLICY: The method of sputum induction, when not specified by the physician is left to the discretion of the therapist. All routine sputum inductions shall be immediately labeled with a bar code and transported to specific drop off areas or laboratory.

PURPOSE: To obtain bronco-pulmonary secretions for laboratory analysis.

DEPARTMENTS: RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES

EQUIPMENT:

1. Patient Labels
2. Computer generated bar codes
3. Sputum specimen container
4. Induction solution, 10% hypertonic saline solution as indicated
5. Aerosol delivery device (HHN)

NOTE Upon physician's request mucolytic (e.g. acetylcysteine) may be used.

PROCEDURE:

1. Verify physician's order
2. Don appropriate personal protective equipment (Gown, gloves, masks, PAPR, etc)
3. Introduce yourself and identify patient using at least two patient identifiers (Pt name, OV number, birthdate, etc.)
4. Explain procedure to patient
5. Prepare HHN with hypertonic saline 10% solution as indicated
6. Deliver hypertonic solution, instruct patient to breathe through mouth slowly and deeply with an inspiratory pause as indicated.
7. Coach patient to cough and expectorate into specimen container. Please note that this process has to be directly witnessed.

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8. Obtain specimen
9. Label the specimen with patient name, date and time.
10. Have patient verify that all of the information of the labels is correct.
11. Obtain and attach the computer generated bar code – make sure to time, date and sign it according to the Pathology Policy on Specimen Labeling Requirement (#2075 v 2).
12. Deliver to specific drop off area or laboratory
13. Chart character of sputum, how it is obtained (induced with hypertonic solution or fresh), time and date of induction.
14. If induction was unsuccessful, chart such.

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References:	
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