

DOCTORS/NURSES

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR OBTAINING [URINE SPECIMENS](#) UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACTS

It is the function of the designated doctor /designated nurse to obtain from the person concerned a specimen of urine. It is an offence for the person concerned to refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made by a member of An Garda Síochána under section 12 (b) or section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Act, 2010.

Kits, for the collection of urine specimens, supplied by the Medical Bureau of Road Safety, are available in the Garda Station.

The kit for the collection of a urine specimen is identified by the letter U (in black) on the outside of the cardboard box which contains the items required for collection and forwarding of the urine specimen.

The total contents of the urine kit are as follows:

- Two cylindrical containers
- Two specimen bottles
- Two matching numbered red seals
- Four white labels
- The Section 15 form
- A plastic biohazard bag, containing absorbent material

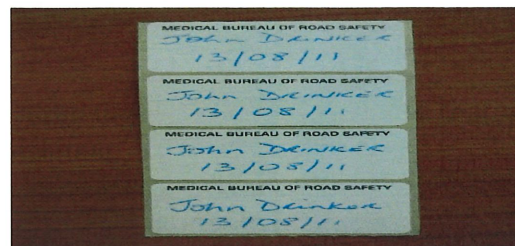


Section 15(1) Road Traffic Act, 2010 lays out what is required by the designated doctor/nurse.

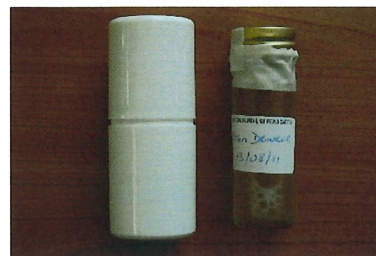
- The doctor/nurse should facilitate the person to provide the required specimen of urine in an unused disposable receptacle (pot or jug) which the Garda will provide.
- The specimen should be of sufficient volume to fill both bottles (about 50ml). When the urine has been obtained, the specimen should be poured in equal amounts into each of the specimen bottles ideally to reach the shoulder of each bottle.
- A temperature strip is attached to the receptacle (pot) which indicates the temperature of the specimen provided (ranging from 33 to 38°C).



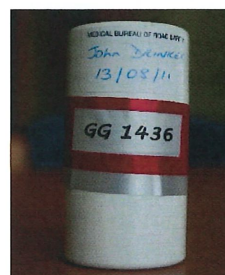
- **Close the bottles firmly by the screw caps and mix by repeated inversion.** This will ensure that the preservative in the bottle will properly mix with the specimens.
- Using **BLOCK CAPITALS** write the **name** of person from whom the specimen was taken, and the **date specimen provided**, on the four white labels, and apply one to each of the two specimen bottles.



- Check that the two codes on the red seals match the code on the back of the Section 15 form.



- Place each specimen bottle into a container.
- Seal each container around the join by affixing one of the red seals horizontally ensuring the seal adheres to both parts of the container.
- Place the two remaining white labels on each of the two containers.



- **Complete all parts of the Section 15 form with BLOCK CAPITALS. Sign the Section 15 form.**
- Hand the Section 15 form and the Containers to the Garda for forwarding to the Medical Bureau of Road Safety.

IMPORTANT:

- The Section 15 form is a legal document and must be completed fully and accurately by the designated doctor or nurse. In signing the document, you are confirming that your obligation under Section 15 of the Road Traffic Act has been fulfilled in accordance with law.

NOTE:

- (a) In cases where there is doubt in relation to the volume of urine provided, analysis can be attempted on specimens of any volume, a greater volume allows for more testing.
- (b) If any mishap should occur to labels, seals or forms, a second kit may be opened to obtain whatever is necessary. If this mishap should occur to one or both of the seals, or if one or both of the forms have to be rejected, then a new set of forms and seals should be used so that all four identification numbers correspond. Kits so opened should be handed to the Garda for return to the Medical Bureau.

The obtaining, handling and disposal of biological specimens and materials should be in accordance with Health & Safety requirements. Please use biological waste bins in the Garda Station.