

### Test Requirements

- 3 x sputum samples are required
- **The preferred** time of collection is first thing **in the morning** prior to eating, drinking and smoking, however if this is not possible the specimens can be collected at other times.
- Sputum from lungs is required. Saliva (e.g. spit) from the mouth or throat is NOT suitable for testing.
- Specimens must be collected on 3 consecutive days and delivered to the Collection Centre on each day of collection. **DO NOT** deliver all 3 samples together.

### Equipment

- 3 x White top containers marked 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

### Procedure

#### DAY 1

1. Label **container no.1** with your full name, date of birth, date of time of collection, and test name.
2. Rinse your mouth with water, for patients with dentures, please remove the dentures first.
3. A deep cough is needed to produce sputum sample.
4. Collect the sample directly into the container.
5. Place the lid on the container and tighten the lid firmly to prevent leakage. Avoid cross threading.
6. Each container **MUST** be delivered to the Collection Centre as soon as possible.
7. **Repeat steps 1-6** for the collection of samples 2 and 3. Ensure containers are marked 2 & 3 respectively.