











Which container ...

- for which test?

Since receiving samples in the wrong type of tube or container can often mean they are unsuitable for testing, please see the guideline below to help decide which container to use.

Container	Content	Volume	Tests/Samples
	No additive tube (sterile)	10mL	Urinalysis, urine chemistry, urine culture, calculi analysis, tissue/pus culture
	UA preservative	10mL	Urinalysis only
	Urine culture preservative	4mL	Urine culture only
	PS tube No additive	5mL	Separated serum, dispensed medication (for clients)
	Pottle No additive	70mL	Urinalysis, culture, faecal analysis, calculi analysis
	Large pottle No additive	250mL	Large samples
	Transport media swab	-	Aerobic/anaerobic culture
	Dry swab	-	Genetic testing, Chlamydia ELISA, feline respiratory syndrome PCR
	10% buffered formalin	70mL 200mL 400mL	Histology
	Slide mailers	-	Cytology smears, blood films*

Do:

- Label all specimens with animal and owner's name
- Refrigerate all samples after collection and submit to the laboratory as soon as possible – except
- cytology smears and blood films
- Include an ice pack with samples when couriating to laboratory, especially in summer
- Ensure all samples sent to the laboratory are packaged according to IATA shipping regulations

Don't:

- Use a small formalin container for a large tissue (formalin volume = 10 x tissue volume)
- Put blood films and cytology smears in the fridge, leave at room temperature.

