

Criteria for Semen Analysis

A semen analysis referral should only be submitted if the couple have been **trying to conceive for at least 12 months**.

Exceptions to this criteria are if the patient has any known issues that may affect their fertility or if the female (or childbearing partner) is ≥ 36 years old, or they have reproductive issues of their own (e.g. PCOS, endometriosis, etc).

Making the Referral

Referrals from GPs must be made via SCI Gateway:

New Referral > Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France > Fertility - Semen Analysis

Must include: How long the couple have been TTC for
 If <12 months, also include the reason for early referral (see criteria above)

If not included, we are unable to process the referral, which could delay the patient's appointment.

Preparing the Patient

Please supply the patient with:

- **Semen Analysis Laboratory Form** (latest version on RefHelp)
- **ONE Andrology Specimen Pot**

(2 pots required ONLY if querying retrograde ejaculation)



Our sample pots are batch tested for sperm toxicity and weighed for accurate volume measurement, please ensure these are kept separate at your practice and only given to semen analysis patients.

Ask the patient to contact the laboratory 2 working days after the referral to arrange an appointment for semen analysis (no samples will be accepted without an appointment).

Need more **pre-weighed/tested** sample pots? Please contact us on 0131 242 2463 or loth.rmlenquiries@nhs.scot.

Getting the Results

Results will be issued **within 2 weeks** of the semen analysis appointment and are available to GPs/clinicians on SCI Store (paper copy is also posted).

The laboratory is not authorised to discuss results with patients, therefore the GP will provide results to patients. If the results indicate that a repeat sample is needed, please provide them with a new lab form and sample pot and ask them to contact the laboratory to book an appointment.

You do not need to send another SCI Gateway referral for repeat analysis.