



## Skin Scrapings for Fungal Culture

### Equipment

Sterile container, sterile disposable scalpel blade with handle or glass slide, adhesive tape and alcohol swab.

### Preparation

- Wipe the area of skin to be scraped with an alcohol swab.
- Remove any ointment or residual applications using soap and water.
- Ensure the skin surface is dry before proceeding with the scraping.

### Specimen Collection

1. Stretching the skin, scrape the outer periphery of the lesion with the blade/glass slide perpendicular to the skin surface.
2. Collect all of the skin material into a sterile container.
3. Remove adherent scrapings from the blade/glass slide by rubbing against the edge of the container. **Do not place the blade in the container with the scrapings.** Specimens will not be processed if received in the laboratory with the blade remaining in the sterile container.
4. Secure the top of the sterile container firmly.
5. Label the sterile container with the patient's full name, date, time and site of collection.
6. Store the specimen at room temperature and deliver to the laboratory on the day of collection.