



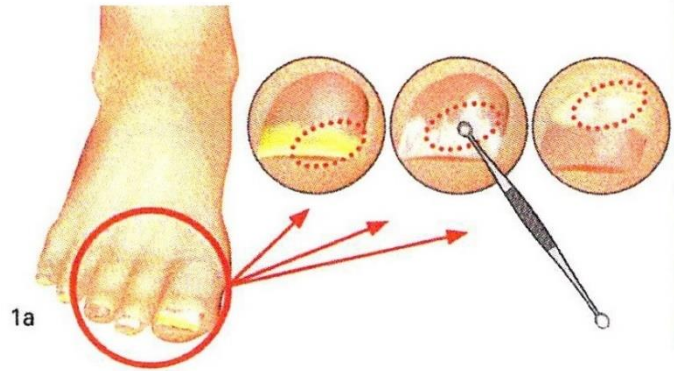
Short Instructions for the Collection of Nail Shavings, Skin Scales, or Hair

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Before each collection, disinfect in the area of suspected mycosis with 70% ethanol and leave to dry briefly.
- The collected sample material is placed into the folded black paper and returned in the envelope provided.
- Take as much material as possible. (Fungi often occur in nests.)

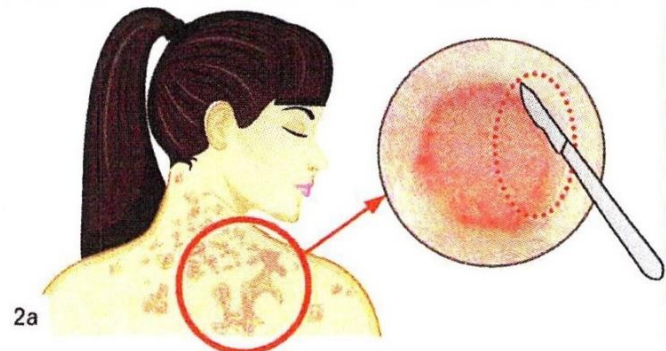
NAILS

- ▶ Before collection, remove any traces of nail varnish/polish.
- ▶ Take samples from nail areas with visible damage or staining (see Fig. 1a). Include any crumbly or soft material under the nail plate. If several nails are affected, take a pooled sample from all of them.
- ▶ Plane-off sample material from the nail surface down to the deeper layers using a sterile, blunt (if required) scalpel, a sharp spoon, a right curette or a milling tool. Retrieve any soft/crumbly material from under the nail using a small hook.
- ▶ Preferably, collect nail shavings or small pieces of the nail, not entire nails.



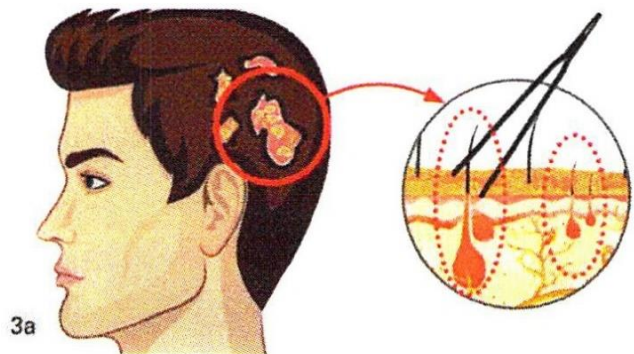
SKIN

- ▶ Scrape a sample from the transition line of healthy skin to mycotic skin (see Fig. 2a).
- ▶ Collect as many skin scales/pieces as possible using a sterile, blunt scalpel.



HAIR

- ▶ Use forceps to select at least 10 hairs from the infected area (see Fig. 3a).
- ▶ Trim hair to 3-5 mm in length to make sample collection easier.



ONLY FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES