

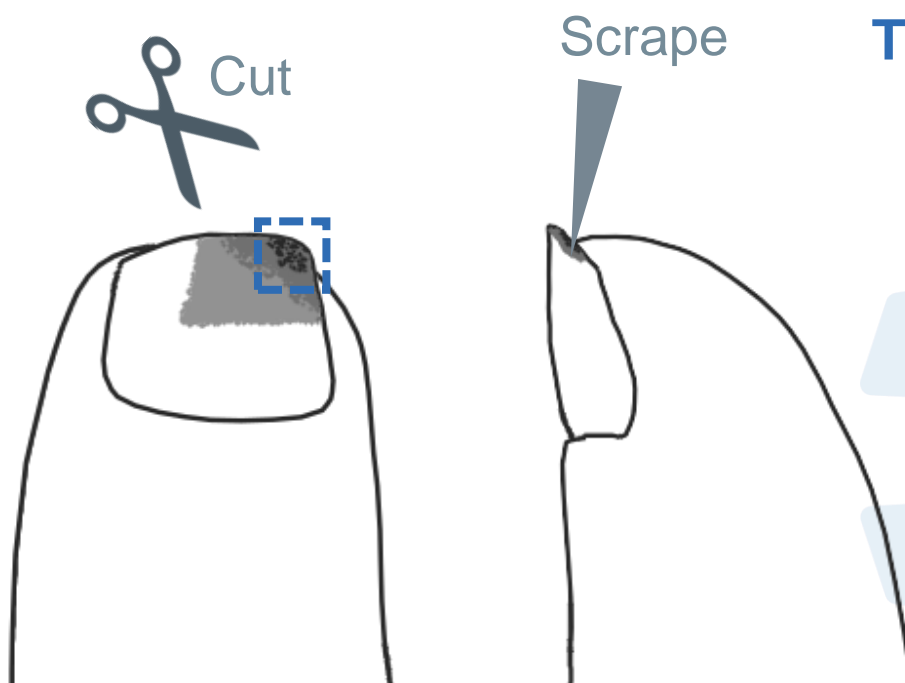
How to collect nail samples for fungal testing

Collection

- Wash and dry the affected hand or foot
- Use clean scissors or nail clippers to cut a small piece of the nail from where it is most badly affected (e.g. thickened, brittle, discoloured)
- Include the full thickness of the nail
- Cut as far back from the nail tip as possible
- If the infection is on the underside of the nail, gently scrape out some debris (crumbly material) using the tip of the scissors

Packaging

- Place the nail clipping and/or scrapings inside a Dermapak
- Seal the Dermapak and place inside its plastic bag
- Do NOT store in the fridge (sample must be kept at room temperature)



Transport

- Make sure the sample is labelled with your name, date of birth and the date of collection
- Bring the sample to your GP (or send to the laboratory) as soon as possible