

PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR STOOL SPECIMEN COLLECTION

CAUTION: Solutions contained in vials are poisonous. Do not drink. Keep out of reach of children.

1. You have been given a collection container(s) that will help you conveniently collect a stool specimen. Each collection tube has a spoon attached to the lid of the container.
2. Ensure the specimen container is labeled with patient's full name, sponsor's social security number, DOB, and date/time of collection.
3. The stool should be passed into a clean plastic hat provided or you may use any of the following: bedpan, clean wide mouth container or plastic wrap over the toilet seat. **Do not let the stool come in contact with urine or toilet water.** For children in diapers – you may use plastic pants, or disposable absorbent diaper.
4. Open the collection tubes containing the liquid. Using the collection spoon attached to the lid, place small scoopfuls of the stool into the tube.
 - For Ova & Parasite collection tubes (i.e. **pink and gray top lids**): place enough stool in each container until the contents of the tube rise to the red line on the container. Close the vial(s) tightly and shake the container to mix the preservative and stool.
 - For C. difficile toxin, reducing substances, pH, rotovirus, fecal white blood cells and fecal macro (i.e. **green top lid**): spoon in three (3) or four (4) scoopfuls of stool and close tightly. This collection container does not contain any preservative; do not shake/mix.
 - For stool culture collection (i.e. **orange top lid**): place enough stool in the container until the contents of the tube rise to the red line on the container. Close the vial(s) tightly and shake the container to mix the preservative and stool.
5. Wash your hands thoroughly. If any liquid from the specimen collection tubes gets on your skin or in your eyes, flush with plenty of water. If irritation develops, contact a physician immediately.
6. Return the samples to the IACH lab within the timeframe specified below:
 - **Pink & Gray Top Collection Containers (O & P Testing): As soon as possible once filled.**
 - **Orange Top Collection Container: Within 12 hours. Do not refrigerate.**
 - **Green Top Collection Container: Within one (1) hour, or refrigerate up to 12 hours.**
7. If you have any questions, please call the laboratory between 0730 and 1700 at (785) 239-7648.