

STOOL SPECIMEN COLLECTION KIT INSTRUCTIONS

Important: Please read all the directions on this document, before beginning the specimen collection. Follow directions, listed below carefully.

Caution: *The collection containers you have received may contain chemical solutions that could irritate your skin. Please avoid any contact with the chemical solutions. **DO NOT DRINK THE SOLUTION.***

1. DO NOT use antacids, barium, bismuth, antidiarrheal medication or oily laxatives before you collect your specimen. If you are using any of these, discontinue use and be sure they have cleared your system before you collect your specimen (at least 48-hours for barium, 24-hours for others).
2. If you are asked to collect a specimen more than one time, perform each specimen collection on different days. DO NOT collect all the specimens on the same day.
3. Find a clean, dry container, or use the collection container provided by your health care provider, that can be discarded when the specimen collection is completed.
4. Pass your stool directly into the collection container. DO NOT take the specimen from the toilet bowl or contaminate it with urine.
Open the container (the container containing the liquid) that you were given at the clinic. Using the collection spoon built into the lid, place a scoopful of stool into the container, until the liquid rises to the red line. **DO NOT GO ABOVE THE RED LINE.** Take bloody, slimy or watery parts of the stool, if they are present. (If you have a container with no solution, simply place a small amount of stool into that container. A plastic utensil, etc. may be used to transfer.)
5. Stir the contents of your container (if it has solution) with the spoon until the specimen and the liquid are well-mixed. Then tighten the cap and shake vigorously to further mix the contents.
6. All specimen collection containers must be labeled with the patient's full name, date of birth, collection date, and collection time.
7. If you were asked to collect a second specimen, repeat steps 3-7 on a different day.
8. Store and transport the collected specimen(s) appropriately for the test(s) ordered (see the table below).
9. Return the specimen(s) to your clinic's laboratory as soon as possible.
10. Specimen testing takes approximately 48-hours after receipt of the specimen(s).
11. Only abnormal results will be reported to you (by your health care provider who ordered the test or a clinic representative).

✓	Test Requested	Specimen Container	Storage Temperature
	Routine stool culture	Orange-Para-Pack C & S Fill to the red line with stool. **DO NOT GO ABOVE THE RED LINE!	Refrigerate
	Gastrointestinal Panel, Stool	Orange-Para-Pack C & S Fill to the red line with stool. **DO NOT GO ABOVE THE RED LINE! <u>AND</u> Plain sterile container with walnut-sized specimen. **Formed stool specimens are not acceptable.	Return to the clinic or lab within 1-hour of collection or Refrigerate no longer than 2-days.
	<i>Giardia</i> Antigen	Pink-Para-Pack 10% buffered Neutral Formalin Fill to the red line with stool. **DO NOT GO ABOVE THE RED LINE!	Room temperature
	Ova & Parasites (O & P)	Green-Para-Pack ECOFIX Fill to the red line with stool. **DO NOT GO ABOVE THE RED LINE!	Room temperature
	<i>C.difficile</i> , Cytotoxigenic DNA, Stool	Fresh stool in sterile container. **Formed stool specimens are <u>not</u> acceptable.	Refrigerate less than 2-days.
	<i>C.difficile</i> culture	Fresh stool in sterile container.	Frozen
	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i> Antigen, Feces	Fresh stool in sterile container.	Frozen

For more information about the collection process, or if you have questions, please call your clinic.