

Stool Specimen Collection

**CLEARLY LABEL ALL SPECIMEN CONTAINERS WITH PATIENT'S FULL NAME,
DATE OF BIRTH, DATE AND TIME OF COLLECTION.**

Specimen may be rejected if this crucial step is omitted!

1. Please obtain a clean dry container from healthcare provider.

If microbiology analysis is needed: please obtain a clean dry container AND a stool collection kit from healthcare provider. (Blue, orange and yellow top vials.)

*Clean dry
container:*



*Microbiology stool
collection kit
(culture & parasites):*



2. Unscrew lid of the clean dry container and place lid on counter. Collect stool specimen in the container. (Collection “hats” may be obtained from the laboratory to assist with collection process.) If microbiology analysis is NOT needed, skip to step 4.
3. Open cap of first colored vial. Fill vials one at a time, being careful NOT to switch color of caps or mix any of the liquids from one container to another. Use scoop on cap to add enough stool from clean dry container to bring the liquid level of the vial up to the red fill line. Choose fecal material which appears bloody and/or has mucous (if applicable). Replace cap and gently mix vial. Repeat for each vial.

Stool must be inserted into vials within 2 hours of collection.

4. Tighten caps securely on all containers, in order to prevent leakage.
5. Place specimen container(s) back in specimen bag for transport.
6. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.
7. Deliver all containers to healthcare professional as soon as possible. If delay in transport, please refrigerate all containers except for the orange and blue, which should stay at room temperature.

* Routine ova and parasite testing consists of one specimen, which will be tested for cryptosporidium and giardia antigens. If the patient is immunocompromised, is from a foreign country, has traveled to a foreign country and/or worms are suspected, a full microscopic ova and parasite exam may be ordered to look for additional parasites. ** If stool specimens are ordered times three, please collect one specimen per 24 hour period. More than one day between specimens is acceptable.

Caution: Colored vials contain poisonous liquids. Keep out of reach of children. Do NOT drink.