



Stool Collection Instructions

Required Patient Preparation! Read Carefully Prior to Collection!

1. Review listing at the bottom of this page to determine which test(s) your physician has ordered.
 - a. *Stool for Enteric Pathogens (EP) or Parasitology (Ova & Parasite Exam) studies:* Specimen collection must wait a minimum of **5 days** after ingestion of intestinal X-ray preparations (barium), mineral oils, antacids, bismuth, antibiotics, anti-diarrheal medications or oily laxatives. These products may interfere with these tests.
 - b. Occult Blood: Refer to separate “Fecal Occult Blood Collection” form for dietary restrictions prior to collection.
2. Specimen cannot touch urine or water.
3. If multiple collections are ordered for O & P or occult blood, they should be collected on separate days. Multiple stool samples should never be collected on the same day.

Specimen Collection Instructions

ADULTS:

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Pass stool directly into a clean dry container.
3. Submit stool specimen in appropriate container labeled with **patient’s full name, date of birth and date and time of collection.**

INFANTS AND TODDLERS:

1. Collect stool by lining the inside of a diaper with a non-absorbent material such as plastic wrap and place on the child.
2. After collection, transfer the sample into appropriate container labeled with the **patient’s full name, date of birth and date and time of collection.**
3. **DO NOT** submit a diaper to the laboratory for testing.

Fresh (unpreserved) Stool Samples that cannot be delivered to the laboratory within 60 minutes of collection require special handling (Do not Freeze)

(Refrigeration and/or preservative transport vials). See chart below for proper preservative for the test you are collecting.

Fresh Stool (sterile container)	Para Pak C & S (orange lid)	Para Paks (pink and gray lids) (10% formalin and Zn-PVA)
Occult Blood (OCB)	Enteric Pathogens (EP) (Includes testing for shiga toxin producing E coli, Shigella, Salmonella, Campylobacter, Yersinia, Vibrio, Rotavirus and Norovirus)	Ova and Parasite Exam (OP)
Clostridium difficile (CDIF), formed stool will not be tested		Giardia Antigen Test (GRT)
Fecal leukocytes (FLC)		Cryptosporidium (CSAGS)

Instructions for Para Pak collection (orange, pink and gray lids)

1. Carefully remove the lid of the Para-Pak vial. (figure 1)
2. Use the spoon on the lid to add enough stool to raise the liquid level to the arrow on the side of the vial. (figure 2) **DO NOT FILL VIAL ABOVE THIS LINE!**
3. Mix the contents of the vial with the collection spoon. (figure 2)
4. Replace the lid tightly. **Make certain that it is tightly closed!** Shake the vial 20 times until all contents are well mixed. (figure 3)
5. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
6. Print your full name, Date of Birth, and Date and Time of specimen collection on the label with a pen or marker. (figure 4)



Fig. 1

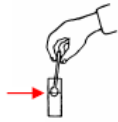


Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

Caution: Solutions are Poisonous, Do not drink. Keep out of reach of children. Do not take internally. Avoid contact with eyes or skin. For contact with eyes, flush with water at least five minutes. For skin contact, wash thoroughly with soap and water. For accidental ingestion, dilute by drinking 2-4 glasses of water. Immediately contact Poison Control Center, your physician, or local hospital. Save the vial label information.

Return specimens to the Laboratory:

Lawrence Memorial Hospital
325 Maine
Lawrence, Ks 66044
785-505-6179

Upon returning specimen to the laboratory, please check in at admissions to register. If someone else is dropping off the specimen for you, they will need current billing (address, phone, etc.) and insurance information.