

1. Obtain proper collection device(s) from Community Hospital's laboratory or your physician's office. You should receive one large collection container and one small vial with a green lid containing a clear preservative.
2. For 24 hours prior to collection, do not take antacids, oily laxatives, or antidiarrheal medication unless otherwise instructed by your physician. Radiological examinations involving bismuth or barium should also be avoided.
3. Fecal specimens should be passed into a clean, dry container (for example: bed pan, paper plate, plastic wrap, or large-mouth container). Do not contaminate with water or urine.
 - a. If collecting in a diaper, first line the diaper with plastic wrap (Saran wrap) so that the sample does not soak into the diaper and give erroneous results.
4. A portion of the stool sample must be transferred immediately into the green vial, follow instructions included with vial. When present, slimy, watery or bloody portions of the stool should be included in vial.
5. Mix specimen well (tighten cap and shake vigorously).
6. Multiple fecal specimens are recommended to increase the chance of parasite recovery. If the physician orders Ova & Parasite collections x3 (three specimens), one specimen should be collected each day for three days in separate collection vials.
7. Label vials with your full name, date of birth and date/time of collection, then return them to the laboratory as soon as possible. Avoid exposing samples to extreme temperatures.
8. If you have any questions please contact Community Hospital's laboratory at (970) 644-3260.