

1. Obtain proper collection device(s) from Community Hospital's laboratory or your physician's office. You should receive one large collection container, one small Para-Pak C&S vial with an orange lid containing a pink preservative and a 'tongue blade' to aid in transferring the specimen.
2. 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.
3. A portion of the stool sample must be transferred immediately into the orange vial using the transfer 'spoon' attached to the inside of the cap of the C&S vial. Add approximately one to two 'spoonfuls' or enough specimen for the contents of the vial to reach the red FILL LINE. When present, slimy, watery or bloody portions of the stool should be included in vial.
4. Replace and tighten cap, then mix specimen well (shake vigorously).
5. Place a portion of the specimen into the orange cap large-mouth container using the 'tongue blade' if necessary. Discard the 'tongue blade' after use.
6. Make sure the caps on all containers are on securely, and label each vial with your full name, date of birth and date/time of collection.
7. Place all specimens inside the clear biohazard bag and return them to the laboratory as soon as possible. If delivery to the lab will be delayed more than 30 minutes after collection, refrigerate the large mouth orange-cap container, but keep the orange top Para-Pak C&S vial at room temperature.
8. If your physician orders stool cultures x3 (three specimens), collect one specimen per day in separate collection vials for 3 days.
9. If you have any questions please contact Community Hospital's laboratory at (970) 644-3260.