

Patient Collection Instructions

Collection of Stool Cultures, Rotavirus, Giardia, Cryptosporidium, Ova and Parasites

Introduction

The doctor has asked you to collect a stool specimen as part of your child's care. Important health decisions may depend on the results of this test(s). You have been given a collection/transport kit which will help you collect a stool specimen. These directions will help you use this kit.

What You Will Need and Where to Get It

3 vials—

- One clean container
- One contains Total-Fix Solution
- One contains C&S Medium in Solution

One vial contains poisonous liquid (Total-Fix)— do not drink! Keep them out of the reach of children.

A Toilet Out-Put Measuring Device which fits over the toilet seat may be helpful in collection.

The above items are available from your physician's office or the laboratory.

How to Collect the Stool Specimen

1. **CAUTION:** The patient should not use antacids, barium, bismuth, antibiotics, antimalarial agents, antidiarrheal medication or oily laxatives prior to specimen collection. Wait 5-10 days after taking any of these medications to collect a specimen. You must wait 14 days after use of barium.
2. Specimens must be collected properly to avoid contamination with urine or water. Specimens are best collected using a Toilet Out-Put Measuring Device which fits over the toilet seat. A clean and dry container such as a cardboard milk container with the top removed may also be used. Another option is to place plastic wrap over the toilet seat opening. For infants, place plastic wrap between baby and diaper to collect the specimen.
3. Fill each vial containing liquid with enough stool to bring the liquid level up to the "FILL" line on the vial. (Make sure you put some of the stool specimen in each of the vials.) **DO NOT OVERFILL.** Fill the clean vial (contains no liquid) at least half full. It is not necessary to fill completely to the line marked on the CLEAN vial.
4. Stir the liquid containing vials containing the specimen with the spoon provided. Tighten the cap and shake firmly until the specimen is adequately mixed. It should appear liquid and uniform.
5. Write the child's name and date of birth on all of the containers.
6. Return the vials to the plastic bag. Refrigerate and bring to Dayton Children's within 92 hours.

CAUTION: Avoid contact with fluid in the vials. Wash your hands thoroughly. If any liquid from the tubes gets on your skin or in your eyes, flush with plenty of water. If irritation develops, consult a physician.

Return the vials within 92 hours to DAYTON CHILDREN'S LABORATORY or a TESTING CENTER.

If you have any questions, please call Dayton Children's Laboratory Services
937-641-5100

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