

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PINWORM COLLECTION FOR DIAGNOSTIC TESTING.

Pinworms migrate through the rectum and deposit their eggs on the perianal skin that is in and around the anus. The eggs are usually not found in stool specimens.

The worms lay their eggs periodically at night while the patient sleeps.

The best specimens are obtained with pinworm paddles between 10PM and midnight or early in the morning when the patient first wakes, before bathing or using the toilet.

1. Collect when the patient first awakes, before using the toilet or bathing. You may need to collect more than one sample. Repeat samples must be collected on different days.
2. You have been provided with a plastic pinworm paddle in a tube. Remove the plastic wrapper and discard.
3. Confirm the collection container is labeled correctly with;
  - a. Your (patient) first and last name,
  - b. The date and time of collection, and
  - c. Patient's birth date
4. Remove the paddle from the tube. The paddle will be attached to the cap. For ease of collection, you may remove the paddle from the cap. Note that one side is sticky, and is labeled "sticky side".
5. Position the patient so that the buttocks can be separated. Press the sticky side of the paddle against the anus and the skin immediately surrounding the anus. **DO NOT** insert the paddle into the anus.
6. Place the paddle back in the plastic tube and place the cap securely on the tube.
7. Because the eggs are very infectious, do not touch the sticky side of the tape after collecting the specimen. Wash hands immediately after.
8. If there will be a delay longer than an hour in bringing the specimen to the lab, keep refrigerated.

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at 630-527-3450