

Stool Information for Lab Staff

General Instructions for ALL Stool Tests		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only 1 specimen per 24 hours, per test is acceptable. 2. Label all specimens with Patient Name, Date of Birth, Collection Date and Time 3. Specimens must NOT be contaminated with urine. 4. Note that different tests have different storage requirements and may need “divided” as necessary. 		
Stool Test	Specimen	Storage/Transportation
Stool Culture SCUL	Collect fresh stool in a clean specimen container.	Both are considered fresh stool specimens and must be delivered to the Laboratory within 2 hours of collection.
	A culturette (Red double swab-Stuarts media) is acceptable only if there is visible stool on the swab.	
	Cary-Blair (Red swab-single swab w/gel media or an Orange liquid media vial)	Store at Room Temperature and deliver to the Laboratory within 24 hours of collection.
C. difficile CDIF3 (Clostridium difficile)	Collect fresh stool in a clean specimen container. 2-3 grams (about a teaspoon) is required. Swabs are unacceptable for testing.	Refrigerate and deliver to the Laboratory within 24 hours. May be held at Room Temp up to 24 hours.
O&P: PARA2 Giardia Antigen GIARD Cryptosporidium Antigen CSPAG	Collect fresh stool in a clean specimen container. May be collected in an Orange liquid Cary-Blair media vial.	Store at Room Temperature and deliver to the Laboratory within 24 hours.
O&P: Total/with Microscopic OVAP2 Note: Must call Microbiology to verify the request for this testing meets Patient acceptability requirements.	Collect fresh stool specimen in a clean container. Transfer specimen to a Pink and Grey Parapak container immediately, following instructions on the collection device.	Store at Room Temperature and deliver to Laboratory within 1 week of collection.
Rotavirus ROTO	Collect fresh stool specimen in a clean specimen container.	Refrigerate and deliver to the Laboratory within 24 hours of collection.
	A culturette (Red double-swab-Stuarts media) is acceptable only if there is visible stool on the swab.	
Leukocytes/WBC's: Order a gram stain: Fecal Lactoferrin	Collect same as Stool Culture or C. difficile.	Note: Cells deteriorate rapidly in fecal material, deliver to the Laboratory ASAP.
Occult Blood Inpatient FOB General Check/Outpatient FOBG Neoplasm Screen FOBN	Collect fresh stool in a clean specimen container. Transfer specimen to FOB card, following instructions carefully.	Store at Room Temperature.
H. pylori HPYAG	Collect fresh stool in a clean specimen container.	Store at Room Temperature and deliver to the Laboratory within 2 hours OR store frozen and deliver to the Laboratory within 24 hours.
Pinworm PINW	A scotch-tape prep, NOT an O&P, is the specimen of choice. Please contact the Laboratory for instructions/supplies.	