



Fecal Collection, Preservation and Transportation

| Test | Instructions |
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| Stool Culture | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Open the Cary Blair vial (stool preservative) and use attached spoon to place stool in the vial. Choose blood or mucus to place in the transport vial if it is present. Add stool until liquid reaches red line on the transport vial. Secure the lid and mix specimen well by hand shaking the vial. Mark description of stool on the vial (formed, loose, watery, etc.).</p> <p>Unpreserved stool is stable for 2 hours at room temperature. Stool in the preservative vial is stable for 48 hours at room temperature or refrigerated.</p> |
| Ova & Parasite: Giardia or Cryptosporidium Antigen | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Open the PVA and 10% Formalin vials (2 per collection) and use attached spoons to place stool in the vials. Choose blood or mucous to place in the transport vials if it is present. Add stool until liquid reaches the red line on the transport vial. Secure lid and mix by hand shaking. Mark stool description on the vials (formed, loose, watery, etc.). Collect only one stool per day. Keep vials at room temperature. Vials are stable for 1 month.</p> |
| Occult Blood | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Using an applicator stick, get a small bit of the stool on a stick. Smear in Box A of the occult blood card. Reuse the applicator to obtain another sample from a different part of the stool. Apply a thin smear of stool to Box B. Close the cover. Keep occult blood test card away from direct heat. If you receive 2 or 3 occult blood test cards, collect each card from a different stool sample. Store cards at room temperature. Return cards to the laboratory within 9 days.</p> |
| Clostridium Difficile | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Stool must be soft or liquid to be acceptable for testing. Stool is stable 1 day at room temperature or up to 5 days when refrigerated.</p> |
| Lactoferrin Feces | <p>Synonyms are fecal leukocytes or WBC feces. Collect at least a pecan size stool in a clean container. Stool is stable up to 48 hours at room temperature or 14 days when refrigerated.</p> |
| Rotavirus | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. For infants or toddlers, collection in a disposable diaper is acceptable. If stool is watery, line the diaper with plastic wrap to keep the stool from absorbing into the diaper. Transfer stool to the container provided. Stool may be kept at room temperature for 2 hours or refrigerated up to 72 hours.</p> |
| Pinworm | <p>Obtain the sample in the early morning before the patient gets up or uses the bathroom. Remove the paddle from vial. Press the sticky surface of the paddle against the perianal skin. Return the paddle to the vial.</p> |
| Helicobacter Pylori | <p>Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Place a stool</p> |

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| Antigen | sample the size of a walnut into the sterile cup provided. Stool is stable for 48 hours in the refrigerator. |
| pH and Reducing Substances | Stool should be passed into the container provided by the laboratory. Stool is stable for 1 hour at room temperature or 24 hours in the refrigerator. |
| Fecal Fat | Stool should be collected into the container provided by the laboratory. Stool is stable for 1 hour at room temperature or refrigerated up to 36 hours. |
| 72 Hour Fecal Fat | Collect all stools passed in 72 hours into the containers provided by the laboratory. Store stool refrigerated. Return all containers to the laboratory when collections are complete. |