



Collection Instructions for Out Patient Stool Samples

Infectious Diarrhea Panel (IDP), Bacterial Culture, Ova and Parasite, Clostridium difficile, Viral testing, and/or for H. pylori

Before Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the appropriate collection container that has been provided for the test your physician has requested from the Laboratory. Ensure to label the collection container with your FULL First and Last Name, Personal Health Number or Personal Identification Number and Date of Birth. 												
About Collection Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caution: Ova & Parasite (SAF) collection container contains formaldehyde (a preservative), which is poisonous – do not ingest. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and mucous membranes. If swallowed, contact a physician or poison control center immediately. Do not discard the liquid or pour liquid into any other sample containers. 												
Collecting the Stool Sample(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash and dry your hands. Urine into the toilet if necessary. Sample can be obtained by placing sheets of plastic wrap over the toilet bowl leaving a slight dip in the center or by using a clean dry container to collect the sample. Do not let urine or toilet water touch the specimen. 												
Adding Stool to the Container	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If blood, pus or mucous is present, try to include this material in your sample. If stool sample is hard, collect sample from each end and the middle of the specimen. Transfer a portion of stool into collection container with the scooper provided on the lid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add enough stool sample to reach the 'fill line' for sample containers that have a 'fill line' (DO NOT OVERFILL). For containers that have no 'fill line' ensure the container is 1/3 full. Sample must be added to collection container within 30 minutes 												
After Collecting the Sample(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the cap tightly and invert the tube 5-10 times to mix when there is preservatives in the container. If an empty vial is used, do not mix or shake. Wash your hands Label sample with your Full First and Last Name, Date of Birth and the Date and Time of collection and Personal Health Number. When you have completed the collection place the sample in the sealed plastic bag provided. Place the completed requisition in the outer pocket of the plastic bag. Do not place requisition inside the sealed section of the bag containing the sample. 												
Storage of Sample(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store sample(s) in the following manner: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Infectious Diarrhea Panel (IDP)</td><td>Refrigerated</td></tr> <tr> <td>Culture</td><td>Refrigerated</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ova & Parasites High Risk X2 (collected on alternate days)</td><td>Room Temperature</td></tr> <tr> <td>Clostridium difficile</td><td>Refrigerated</td></tr> <tr> <td>Viral Testing</td><td>Refrigerated</td></tr> <tr> <td>H. pylori</td><td>Refrigerated</td></tr> </table> 	Infectious Diarrhea Panel (IDP)	Refrigerated	Culture	Refrigerated	Ova & Parasites High Risk X2 (collected on alternate days)	Room Temperature	Clostridium difficile	Refrigerated	Viral Testing	Refrigerated	H. pylori	Refrigerated
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Delivering the Stool Sample(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring the samples and the Physician's request (requisition) to the Laboratory as soon as possible – preferably the same day. Check that the information on the requisition is correct and complete. 												
Sample Rejection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samples that are not refrigerated after collection, prior to transporting to the lab Samples that are not labeled correctly and/or do not have a completed requisition will NOT be tested 												

**If you have any questions please call the VIHA Laboratory Call Center
250-370-8355 or Toll Free at 1-866-370-8355**