










Patient Instructions for Stool Collections 13.60.T01

1. Follow the instructions for different vial(s) depending on which test(s) your provider has ordered.
2. **If the vial contains liquid DO NOT DISCARD IT, add stool carefully up to the indicator line. The liquids in the vials are POISONOUS! Keep out of reach of children.**
3. Do not use laxatives prior to the collection of stool specimens. If imaging studies involving barium were performed, wait until stool is no longer showing a white color before collecting the sample.
4. Pass urine into the toilet bowl prior to collection stool specimen.
5. Place collection hat or plastic wrap over the toilet bowl rim. Lower the toilet seat and pass stool into the collection hat or plastic wrap. Do not pass stool directly into the specimen vial.
6. Do not collect the stool from the toilet, no urine or water can come in contact with the stool.
7. Place small scoops of stool into the vial using the attached spoon. Fill the vial until the liquid reaches the fill line (approximately 5 mL/1 teaspoon). **Specimen will be rejected if liquid level is above or below the 'fill to' line.** Screw lids onto vials tightly. Shake the specimen vial vigorously until the mixture is well mixed. Do not overfill the vials.
8. Collect for one day only. More than one bowel movement can be used during the one day of collection to get enough stool for all the containers, if necessary.
9. If collecting a 24-hour or 48-hour stool sample all of the stool from that time period must be included in the containers provided. Stool cannot be taken from the timed collection and placed in another vial for other testing.
10. Wash hands thoroughly. If any liquid from the vials gets on your skin or in your eyes, flush the site with running water. If irritation develops, consult your health care provider.
11. Label vial(s) with full legal name and date of birth (if not labeled), collection date and time. Note the stool consistency on the vial (ex. Watery, loose, soft, firm).
12. Return the specimen vial(s) to the nearest Sanford facility. Please call the Sanford Broadway Laboratory with any questions: **701-234-4888**.

Note: For children in diapers, collect the stool sample by lining the diaper in plastic wrap. Do not include any wipes used in the collection process with the specimen.

| Test(s) ordered by Provider: (highlight/circle tests indicated): | Vial(s) to place stool in: | Collection Instructions: | How/When to take to Lab |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ova and Parasite Exam |  <p>Para-Pak Ova and Parasite or</p>  <p>Eco-Fix</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using attached spoon, fill vial(s) until liquid reaches line indicated by red arrow – 5 mL • Mix well by mashing or shaking vigorously • Specimen will be rejected if liquid is above or below the indicated line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial(s) to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store at room temperature. <u>DO NOT refrigerate or freeze</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crypto/Giardia EIA • Giardia EIA • Cryptosporidium EIA • Enteric Panel without <i>C. difficile</i>, NAD <p>(These tests can share a single vial)</p> |  <p>Para-Pak C&S</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using attached spoon, fill until container liquid reaches line indicated by red arrow – 5 mL • Mix well by mashing or shaking vigorously • Specimen will be rejected if liquid is above or below the indicated line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store refrigerated |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stool Culture/ Shiga-toxin <p>(Requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Para-Pak C&S</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using attached spoon, fill until liquid reaches line indicated by red arrow – 5 mL • Mix well by mashing or shaking vigorously • Specimen will be rejected if liquid is above or below the indicated line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store refrigerated |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enteric Parasite Panel • Extended Parasite Panel <p>(Requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Para-Pak C&S</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using attached spoon, fill until liquid reaches line indicated by red arrow – 5 mL • Mix well by mashing or shaking vigorously • Specimen will be rejected if liquid is above or below the indicated line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store refrigerated |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fecal Fat Screen • Rotavirus EIA • Norovirus by NAT • C. difficile by NAT • H. pylori by NAT <p>** (Each test requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Container with no Preservative</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either pour or use a wooden stick to transfer stool until vial is 1/3 full (approximately 5 mL) • C. difficile testing will only be performed on LIQUID stool samples | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial(s) to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store refrigerated |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreatic Elastase-1, Fecal <p>(Requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Container with no Preservative</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either pour or use a wooden stick to transfer stool until full (approximately 20 mL) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store refrigerated |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calprotectin <p>(Requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Container with no Preservative</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a wooden stick to transfer stool until vial is 1/3 full (approximately 5 mL) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store frozen |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Substance, Fecal <p>(Requires a separate vial)</p> |  <p>Container with no Preservative</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a wooden stick to transfer stool until vial is full (approximately 15 mL) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take vial to Sanford laboratory within 24 hours • Store frozen |