

Stool Collection Instructions

*** Lab staff, please check mark the collection instructions for patient to follow. ***

How to collect the stool specimen:

A collection device or "hat" may be obtained from a BVHS Outpatient Laboratory to assist with the collection. Stool may also be collected at home without the use of a "hat" by taping a plastic bag to the toilet seat or by placing plastic wrap over the toilet seat. The specimen should then be transferred into the collection containers provided to you.

ALL SPECIMENS MUST BE LABELED WITH FIRST AND LAST NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, TIME AND DATE OF COLLECTION

*If you have any questions please contact one of our laboratories.

BVHS Findlay Lab at 419-423-5328 or Bluffton Lab at 419-369-2314

Fecal White Blood Cells, H. pylori Antigen, Occult Blood, Calprotectin

1. Specimen must be collected prior to any x-ray contrast material (such as barium).
2. Collect the stool specimen without contaminating with urine or water. Approximately 1-5 ml of stool is needed for testing.
3. Place specimen in a clean, wide-mouth, leak proof container. This container can be provided to you by your doctor's office or a BVHS Outpatient Laboratory.
4. Return specimen to a BVHS Outpatient lab within 2 hours of collection. If this is not possible, you may refrigerate the specimen for up to 24 hours.
5. If your doctor instructed you to collect more than one specimen they should be collected on different days (unless otherwise instructed). Write the collection date and time on each container.

Note: If collecting for Occult Blood testing, do not attempt to collect specimen if you are experiencing menstrual, hemorrhoidal, or urinary bleeding. Also avoid aspirin, iron supplements, excessive Vit C intake, and anti-inflammatory medications.

Clostridium Difficile (C.diff)

1. Collect feces without contaminating with urine or water. Approximately 1-5 ml of **LOOSE, unformed** stool is needed for testing. Note: Formed or hard stools cannot be used for testing. If you are unsure if your specimen is acceptable or not, bring the specimen to the laboratory and the lab will evaluate the specimen. If the lab determines that a new specimen is needed you will be contacted.
2. Place the specimen in a clean, wide-mouth, leak proof container. This container can be provided to you by your doctor's office or by a BVHS Outpatient Laboratory.
3. Please write on the container any antibiotic you are currently taking.
4. Return specimen to a BVHS Outpatient lab within 2 hours of collection. If this is not possible, you may refrigerate for up to 24 hours.

Ova & Parasites or Giardia Antigen

1. Specimen must be collected prior to any x-ray contrast material (such as barium).
2. Collect feces without contaminating with urine or water. Place specimen in a clean, wide-mouth, leak proof container.
3. Within 30 minutes of collection transfer portions of the stool specimen into the Ova and Parasite collection vials.
 - a. Using the spoon provided in the cap of each vial, extract a portion of stool (bits of blood or mucus are best) and place in vial. Fill until the liquid touches the red fill line. Invert to mix vials well. **THESE CONTAINERS MUST HAVE ALL OF THE ORIGINAL LIQUID IN THEM for test results to be accurate.** If the liquid spills, you must obtain a new kit. Kits can be provided to you by your doctor's office or by a BVHS Outpatient lab.
4. Return all 3 collection containers to a BVHS lab within 2 hours of collection. If this is not possible, refrigerate the specimens for up to 24 hours.

Enteric Pathogens DNA Panel and Send-out Stool Culture

1. Specimen must be collected prior to any x-ray contrast material (such as barium).
2. Collect feces without contaminating with urine or water. Place specimen in a clean, wide-mouth, leak proof container.
3. Within 2 hours of collection transfer portions of the stool specimen into the Cary-Blair collection vial.
 - a. Using the spoon provided in the cap of each vial, extract a portion of stool (bits of blood or mucus are best) and place in vial. Fill until the liquid touches the fill line. Invert to mix vials well. **THESE CONTAINERS MUST HAVE ALL OF THE ORIGINAL LIQUID IN THEM for test results to be accurate.** If the liquid spills, you must obtain a new kit. Kits can be provided to you by your doctor's office or by a BVHS Outpatient lab.
4. Return all collection containers to a BVHS lab within 2 hours of collection. If this is not possible, refrigerate the specimens for up to 24 hours.