

Patient Information form



Collection of a Stool specimen:

Do ... Collect specimen into a plastic 'hat' or plastic bag.

Do ... Fill each vial one at a time to the **RED LINE**.

Do ... mix each vial well after carefully replacing the cap.

Do ... **Label each container** with 1)Your Name 2)DOB 3)collection date/time

Do ... Leave **Orange** and **Black** vials at **room temperature**.

Do ... Refrigerate plain (non-additive) containers

Do ... Wash hands thoroughly

Do ... Bring preserved vials to the lab within 24 hours

Bring fresh unpreserved (plain containers) to the lab in <2 hours

Don't ... Pass specimen into the toilet (stool cannot mix with water, urine, or toilet paper)

Don't ... Mix lids on preservative vials (fill one at a time)

Don't ... Delay getting your specimen to the lab. Within 2 hours is best!



Orange vial – Stool, Yersinia, Vibrio cultures



Black 'Total-Fix'– Cryptosporidium, Giardia or O&P (travel history required)



Non-Additive - C diff, VRE, Rotavirus, Fecal Lactoferrin, Fecal Fats, H. pylori, or Occult blood (Refrigerate any plain or blue/white cap containers).

*If your physician has ordered a series, for example you are to collect 3 different specimens; you need to collect specimens from 3 separate bowel movements or days.

*If not all vials are needed, return the vials to the laboratory.

*If unable to obtain an adequate volume of stool for all containers, place in plain (non-additive) container, refrigerate and bring to the laboratory <2 hrs.

*For any other stool tests, please collect in plain (non-additive) container, keep refrigerated and bring to the laboratory as soon as possible within 24 hours or call MMC Laboratory for instructions 814-333-5514.

INFANTS

Specimens in diapers are not acceptable. The stool material should be scraped into a screw-capped container.

Diarrhea:

Babies with severe diarrhea may use a U-bag collection system. Attach the bag over the anal area to retrieve the specimen before it soaks into the diaper. Empty bag contents into the screw-capped container.