



Gastrointestinal Tract Pathogens Specimen Collection Instructions

Materials Provided:

- 1 sterile swab
- 1 molecular transport tube
- 1 specimen bag
- 1 UPS/FedEx Lab Pak mailer

Specimen Collection

To ensure safety and validity of the sample it is important to follow the instructions provided below.

Rectal Collection

1. Remove sterile swab from collection kit.
2. Insert the tip of the swab at least 1 inch beyond the sphincter, and rotate the swab 5-10 times in an anal pocket/groove.
3. Visually ensure swab is saturated with fecal material.
4. Place swab in molecular transport tube.
5. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times
6. Break at the indentation mark and securely recap the tube leaving the swab inside.
7. Label the transport tube with two patient identifiers.
8. Place the transport tube into the provided specimen bag.
9. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 – 15 minutes before placing it in the mailing envelope.
10. Place all samples collected for the day into a provided UPS/ FedEx Lab Pak mailer. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.

Stool Sample from Bedpan

1. Wear gloves. Do not handle the bedpan, collection tubes, etc. without gloves.
2. Open sterile bag and wrap around bedpan. Handle the outside of the bag and avoid touching the inner portion.
3. Collect the stool sample in a wrapped bedpan. Ensure that the stool sample is not contaminated with urine.
4. Remove sterile swab from collection kit.
5. Insert the tip of the swab into the stool sample and rotate the swab 5-10 times.
6. Visually ensure swab is saturated with fecal material.
7. Place swab in molecular transport tube.
8. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.

9. Break at the indentation mark and securely recap the tube leaving the swab inside.
10. Label the transport tube with two patient identifiers.
11. Place the transport tube into the provided specimen bag.
12. Keep the tube in an upright position for 10 – 15 minutes before placing it in the mailing envelope.
13. Place all samples collected for the day into a provided UPS/ FedEx Lab Pak mailer. Seal the mailer and place a shipping label on the outside.
14. Dispose of used, sterile bag and contents.

Stool Sample from Toilet Hat (in-home collection)

1. Wash hands before touching toilet hat.
2. Place toilet hat with the round end at the back of the toilet seat (there are instructions on the inside of the hat itself).
3. Collect the stool sample in a toilet hat. Ensure that the stool sample is not contaminated with urine.
4. Remove sterile swab from collection kit.
5. Insert the tip of the swab into the stool sample and rotate the swab 5-10 times.
6. Visually ensure swab is saturated with fecal material. If sample is frankly diarrheal, ensure swab is fully saturated with liquid fecal material.
7. Place swab in the collection tube.
8. Swirl the swab in the solution 5 times.
9. Break the swab handle at the indentation mark and securely recap the tube leaving the swab inside the tube.
10. Place a label containing two patient identifiers on the tube and *keep it in the upright position for 10 – 15 minutes* before sending for testing.
11. Place in UPS/FEDEX bag and drop off immediately at facility for shipping.

Do not consume contents of collection device.