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|  | <p align="center"><b>DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE</b><br/><b>DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY</b></p> | <p>Document Name: Collection Instructions of Stool<br/>for Culture<br/>Document #: 133670<br/>Status: Draft</p> |
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## COLLECTION OF STOOL FOR BACTERIAL CULTURE

**Materials supplied:**

Stool culture Transport Medium (Cary Blair Medium) x3  
 Biohazard transport bag x3  
 Wooden spatula x3  
 Requisition completed by physician or clinic

**Materials needed but not supplied:**

Clean wide mouthed container/clean paper

**Collection guidelines:**

**\*\*Do not use laxatives before collection of stool specimen\*\***

**\*\*Collect 1 specimen/day for three consecutive days\*\***

**Collection Procedure:**

1. Pass stool into a wide mouthed container or onto clean paper.
2. Using the spoon attached to the lid of the container or the wooden spatula provided, transfer a quantity of the stool specimen, especially from any area bloody or slimy, into the container until the liquid reaches the **“FILL LINE”** on the outside of the container.  
**IMPORTANT:** Mix the specimen well with the fluid in the container.
3. Replace the lid on the container and tighten securely.
4. Shake until well mixed.
5. Wash and dry hands thoroughly.
6. Write the patient’s full name, date and time the specimen was collected on container label.
7. Place specimen inside the biohazard transport bag (one specimen per bag).
8. Place the completed requisition in the side pouch of biohazard transport bag.
9. Keep collected specimen at room temperature.

Deliver specimen to the Microbiology laboratory within 48 hours of collection.

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| <b>Microbiology Laboratory:</b> | <b>St. Michael’s Hospital, Cardinal Carter wing, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor – Room 2044</b> |                      |
| <b>Receiving Hours:</b>         | <b>Weekdays</b>   | <b>08:30 – 22:00</b> |
|                                 | <b>Weekends/Holidays</b>  | <b>08:00 – 16:00</b> |
| <b>Telephone #:</b>             | <b>416-864-5381</b>   |                      |

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