



St. Michael's

DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE
DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY

Document Name: Collection Instructions of Stool
for C.difficile Testing

Document #: 133669

Status: Current

Uncontrolled When Printed

COLLECTION OF STOOL FOR *C.difficile* TESTING

MATERIALS SUPPLIED

Sterile specimen container
Biohazard transport bag
Plastic pipette
Requisition completed by physician or clinic

MATERIALS NEEDED BUT NOT SUPPLIED

A clean dry container

COLLECTION GUIDELINES

Collect 1 loose watery or soft stool specimen

REJECTION CRITERIA

Testing on formed or hard stool is NOT performed

COLLECTION PROCEDURE

1. Pass loose watery or soft stool directly into a clean dry container. Soft stool is defined as stool assuming the shape of its container.
2. Open the lid of the specimen container.
3. Using the plastic pipette, transfer 5 – 10 mL (~1 – 2 teaspoon in volume) of specimen to sterile specimen container.
4. Discard pipette into garbage.
5. Screw cap tightly on the specimen container.
6. Wash your hands thoroughly.
7. Write the patient's full name, date and time of collection on the specimen container label.
8. Place collected specimen inside the biohazard transport bag.
9. Place the completed requisition into pouch on the side of the biohazard bag.
10. Collected specimen must be stored in the refrigerator.

Deliver specimens to the Microbiology laboratory within 24 hours of collection.
The Microbiology laboratory will receive specimens 24 hours/7 days a week.

Microbiology Laboratory: St. Michael's Hospital, Cardinal Carter wing, 2nd floor – Room 2-044
Telephone #: 416-864-5381

Authority for Issue: Dr. M. Tadros

Authorized Date: 5/4/2021

Version: 1.0.1

Effective Date: 5/4/2021

Any document appearing in paper form is uncontrolled and should be checked against the master electronic current version prior to use. Only original printed material with the "CONTROLLED" water mark may exist in designated locations. The controlled printed document should only be used when the electronic version is unavailable. Unauthorized photocopies or alterations of this document are uncontrolled documents.