

 St. Michael's	DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY	Document Name: Collection Instructions of Stool for C.difficile Testing Document #: 133669 Status: Current
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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 2044
Telephone #:	416-864-5381

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