



St. Michael's

DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE
DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY

Document Name: Collection Instructions of Stool for
Ova and Parasites

Document #: 133671

Status: Draft

Uncontrolled When Printed

COLLECTION OF STOOL FOR OVA AND PARASITES

Materials supplied:

Sterile transport container with SAF fixative for Ova & Parasites x3

Biohazard transport bag x3

Wooden Spatula x3

Requisition completed by physician or clinic with Information on symptoms, travel, etc. (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary).

Materials needed but not supplied:

Clean wide container

Collection guidelines:

****Collect 1 specimen/day. Addition specimens should be 2 days apart****

****A maximum of 3 specimens should be collected****

****Do not take any medicines (laxatives, anti-diarrhea drugs) containing mineral oil, barium, bismuth, kaolin, magnesium, antibiotics, etc., for at least 5 – 7 days prior to collection****

Collection Procedure:

1. Pass stool into a wide-mouthed container or onto clean paper.
NOTE: DO NOT MIX STOOL WITH URINE OR WATER FROM TOILET BOWL.
2. Using the spoon attached to the lid of the container or the wooden spatula provided, transfer a quantity of stool specimen 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 mixed well.
5. Wash and dry hands thoroughly.
6. Write patient's full name, date and time the specimen was collected on container label.
7. Place specimen in the biohazard transport bag (one specimen/bag).
8. Place the completed requisition in side pouch of biohazard transport bag.
9. Keep collected specimen at room temperature.

After collection, all 3 specimens can be delivered to the Microbiology Laboratory at the same time.

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

Authority for Issue: Dr. L. Matukas	Authorized Date: 6/7/2017
Version: 0	Effective Date: 6/7/2017
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