

Outpatient Stool Collection container guidelines for Patient Service Centers

TEST	CONTAINERS	COMMENTS	HANDLING
O&P (OVA & Parasite) or Cryptosporidium/Giardia	SAF Vial Usually Orange Called Date/Time & Collector Cap	Transfer specimen to SAF preservative vial immediately after collection. Mix vial with spoon attached to vial cap or wooden tongue depressor. No more than one specimen per day. Deliver to the lab within 72 hours at room temperature. Recommend 2-3 samples per diarrheal episode (Sterile container is NOT Acceptable)	CAUTION: Additive is Poisonous Keep out of reach of children
Bacterial Culture (C&S)	Carey Blair Vial Usually Yellow Cap	Transfer specimen to Carey Blair preservative vial immediately after collection. Mix vial with spoon attached to vial cap or wooden tongue depressor. No more than one specimen per day. Deliver to the lab within 72 hours at room temperature. Recommend no more than 2 specimens per diarrheal episode (Sterile container is NOT Acceptable)	CAUTION: Additive is Poisonous Keep out of reach of children
C. difficile Fecal Leukocytes Lactoferrin Pancreatic Elastase	Sterile Cup Usually Blue Cap Collect Date/Time & Collector	C. difficile: test within 72 hours of collection Recommend no more than 2 specimens per diarrheal episode Fecal leukocytes: test within 4 hours of collection-mark requisition as STAT Lactoferrin: test within 48 hours of collection Pancreatic elastase: test within 72 hours of collection No more than one specimen per day	Must be delivered under refrigeration by courier
Fecal Fat Qual Or Sudan Stain	Sterile Quart Container	Random (ok to use smaller blue capped sterile cup). Use quart container for 24, 48 or 72 hour collection Test within 4 days (96 hours) of collection	Must be delivered under refrigeration by courier

C. difficile, culture and Ova/Para (Microbiology 275-7801), Leukocytes (Hematology 275-9689) Fecal fat, Lactoferrin or Pancreatic elastase (Reference lab: 275-5988)