

**PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR STOOL COLLECTION**

O&P (parasites) – **orange vial**, C&S (bacteria) – **yellow vial**, *C. difficile* and leukocytes- **sterile container**

1. Collect Specimen In a Clean Dry Container.

- Use an insert (toilet hat) for toilet **OR**
- Clean dry wide mouth container
  - Bed pan
  - Wastebasket lined with plastic bag

DO NOT collect from toilet  
 DO NOT urinate on specimen  
 DO NOT collect directly in vial  
 Specimen **must** be soft or liquid for *C. difficile*



Toilet Hat

2. Transfer Specimen Into Vial(s) and/or Sterile Container

- Using plastic spoon or wooden stick for each vial or container transfer specimen
- Fill to red line for Parasite and Bacterial exams; **DO NOT OVERFILL**
- Mix vial with spoon or stick
- Recap vial making sure cap is on tightly (be sure not to switch container lids, if collecting multiple containers).
- Shake the vial until contents are well mixed

3. Fill Out Information on Collection Vial-REQUIRED

- Full name (first and last)
- Date of birth
- Date and time specimen was collected
- Collect no more than one sample per day for each test
- Samples lacking complete labeling will not be tested

Refrigerate container with blue cap (*C. difficile*) if transport to collection station is delayed more than 1 hour. Specimen is stable for up to 3 days if refrigerated. Fecal leukocytes (WBC's) require delivery within 24 hours.

Parasite (O&P)  
SAF Vial



Stable room temp  
 Deliver to lab within 72 hours  
 after collection

Bacterial (C&S)  
Cary Blair Vial



Stable room temp  
 Deliver to lab within 72 hours  
 after collection

Sterile Container



**REFRIGERATE**  
*C. difficile*-deliver within 72 hours  
 Leukocytes deliver within 24 hours  
 after collection