

## STOOL SAMPLES – COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

**Label the cup with your FULL LEGAL NAME and DATE OF BIRTH.  
Do not label the lid. Your sample cannot be accepted without this information.**

Container(s) required:

- Sterile cup or white top stool container (sterile container, no preservatives)  
**Always use this container in addition to any others required.**
- Black top stool container (Total Fix vial)
- Orange top stool container (Culture & sensitivity vial)

Instructions:

1. If possible, urinate in the toilet before collecting the feces sample to avoid contamination.
2. Collect the sample in the Collection Commode (hat) given to you that fits on the toilet rim. If you were not given a collection commode you can put plastic wrap over the top of the toilet bowl and put the seat down over the wrap to collect your sample.
3. Do not mix water from the toilet bowl or urine with the sample. This will spoil the test.
4. Transfer the specimen to the Collection Container(s). *Be sure to use the container that was given to you.* The Collection Container may have a spatula attached to the top that you can use to transfer the sample into the vial. If not available, use a tongue depressor or clean disposable spoon. *Make sure that all caps are tightened.*
5. If your container has a Fill Line, do not overfill. If your sample container is a sterile cup, a fecal sample about the size of a walnut for each test is a good amount.
6. Label the container with:
  - The patient's full legal name (first and last, no nicknames)
  - Date of birth
  - Date and time of collection
7. Patients in diapers: Fecal samples cannot be collected directly from the diaper. The detergents, perfumes and urine from the diaper will spoil the test.
  - Line the diaper with plastic
  - Remove diaper within 30 minutes after bowel movement and place feces into the container(s) provided. Do not over fill.
  - Label the container as directed above
8. Place the specimen in the provided biohazard bag and bring it to the hospital blood draw area

**Stool samples MUST be brought to the lab within 2 hours of collection.**