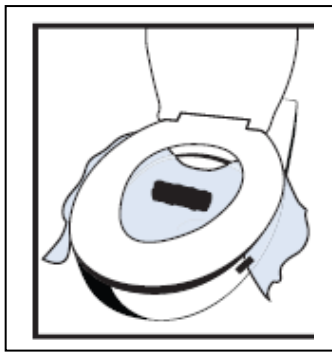


Patient Instructions for Stool Specimen

Collection for Bacterial Analysis

Using a Cary Blair Swab

1. Gather all supplies: Pen, test requisition form, CultureSwab pouch, wax paper or plastic wrap, adhesive tape, plastic bags, and paper bag.
2. **Wash hands with soap and water** before beginning stool specimen collection (bowel movement).
3. **Completely** fill out the information on the test requisition. **Print legibly.**
4. Peel open the CultureSwab pouch.
5. Write the **patient's full name as well as the date and time that the specimen is collected** on the outside of the capped swab tube. **Print legibly.**
6. **To collect a stool specimen**, before using the toilet, lift the toilet seat and place a piece of wax paper or plastic wrap over the toilet bowl. Secure it with adhesive tape to prevent the sample from falling into the toilet bowl.



7. Make a depression in the plastic wrap or wax paper to aid specimen collection. Lower the toilet seat and proceed with

expelling the bowel movement (stool specimen). Do not expel the specimen into the toilet, and do not urinate on it.

8. Remove and discard the cap from the swab tube.
9. Remove the applicator swab and collect the specimen. Dip the swab into the stool from areas that appear bloody, slimy, or watery.
10. The quantity of specimen is important; visible fecal material must be present.
11. Place stool coated swab into the tube, pushing it below the surface of the semi-solid Cary Blair preservative.
12. The opposite end of the swab now serves as a tight-fitting cap.
13. Make sure that the patient's name as well as the date and time of collection are on the outside of the specimen swab.
14. Place the swab in the plastic bag and seal it.
15. Place the sealed plastic bag in a paper or plastic bag.
16. Dispose of the remaining stool in the toilet and discard the soiled plastic wrap by placing it in a paper or plastic bag. Place this bag into a plastic bag. Close the plastic bag with a twist tie and put it in the garbage.
17. **Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.**
18. Place the specimen swab in a paper or plastic bag in the refrigerator until it is



returned to the health department. If refrigeration is unavailable, the specimen can be stored at room temperature.

19. Place the test requisition form in the outer plastic specimen bag. Do not put the test requisition form in the side of the bag containing the specimen. Deliver the bag with the specimen container as soon as possible within 24 hours of collection, unless otherwise instructed, to the following facility:

Name of Facility _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Hours _____

For questions, call _____

Thank you for your time and cooperation.