



PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR STOOL SPECIMEN COLLECTION

****IF VIALS CONTAIN LIQUID, KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN****

**If contact with skin or mucous membranes occurs, flush well with water.
If swallowed contact a physician or local Poison Control Center immediately.**

1. Before collection:

Obtain a "toilet hat" from your physician or use a clean dry plastic container to collect a stool specimen.

2. Collection:

A. Standard toilet or potty chair:

- Collect stool in a clean dry plastic container, to avoid contamination from urine or toilet paper (may use plastic wrap under the lid, if no container is available)
- Do not use stool mixed with urine or water from the toilet bowl.
 - It may be best to urinate before stool collection.

B. Diaper:

- Line the diaper with plastic wrap.
- Secure diaper on child.
- Watch child carefully to know when his/her bowels have moved and remove the diaper and plastic wrap immediately. (Avoid leaving plastic wrap on the child's skin for more than 30 minutes at a time.)
- Never wring out diapers to collect the specimen.
- Do not bring specimen to the lab in a diaper. These specimens will not be accepted as some diapers contain antimicrobials that can interfere with testing.

3. Place stool specimen into the individual transport vials you were given.

- A. Select samples from areas appearing bloody, slimy, or watery. Fill vials to the "Fill Line" marked on the label (at least a walnut-sized sample). If unable to obtain an adequate volume of sample, fill the clean vial (white cap) first.
- B. Complete the label on each vial with the patient's name, date of birth, date and time of collection, and consistency of stool.
- C. The "toilet hat" does not need to be returned to Aspirus. This can be discarded in a waste receptacle.

4. REFRIGERATE the filled vials until returned to your local Aspirus medical facility. Return ASAP or within 24 hours.

5. Stop at Registration before bringing the sample to the laboratory.

- If you have any written orders or other paperwork, please bring them along with the sample.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Aspirus medical facility where you will be dropping the specimen off.