

Laboratory Services Instructions for Stool Collection

Before collecting the specimen

- **DO NOT** use a laxative or stool softener for 24 hours prior to collecting the stool specimen.
- Empty bladder completely. Stool must not come into contact with water or urine.
- Label all containers with:
First and Last Name, Date of Birth, Date and Time of stool collection.

How to collect the specimen

- Collect stool into a clean and dry disposable container, or plastic wrap placed under the toilet seat.
- **DO NOT** let water touch the specimen.
- Use the collection spoon provided in the cap of the container to transfer stool to the **FILL LINE** on the vial and tightly recap. Repeat this process for each vial. Transfer slimy, bloody, or liquid stool when present.
- **DO NOT** spill contents. If liquid fixative spills, please obtain a new vial.

Add stool to vials in the order shown.



After collecting the specimen

- Wash hands thoroughly.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Deliver your stool sample along with the lab order to the Laboratory as soon as possible. The delivery time requirements are different for each container. When delivering more than one type of container, use the shortest time shown below to assure the specimens will be acceptable for testing.

	<u>If sample kept at room temperature, deliver within:</u>	<u>If sample kept in refrigerator, deliver within:</u>
<u>Vial 1 (WHITE)</u>		
H. pylori	Do not store at room temperature	48 hours
Norovirus PCR	Do not store at room temperature	24 hours
Rotavirus antigen	3 hours	24 hours
Calprotectin	5 hours	48 hours
C. difficile PCR	24 hours	48 hours
	<u>If sample kept at room temperature, deliver within:</u>	<u>If sample kept in refrigerator, deliver within:</u>
<u>Vial 2 (ORANGE)</u>		
Culture	Do not store at room temperature	48 hours
Fecal WBC	Do not store at room temperature	48 hours
Parasite Screen	Do not store at room temperature	48 hours
	<u>If sample kept at room temperature, deliver within:</u>	<u>If sample kept in refrigerator, deliver within:</u>
<u>Vial 3 (GREEN)</u>		
Ova and Parasite	48 hours	48 hours

Where to deliver your specimen

Concord Hospital-Concord, Concord Hospital-Laconia or Concord Hospital-Franklin Main Laboratory locations

Specimen Drop-off available Monday - Friday 6:30a - 7p, Saturday - Sunday 7a-7p

If you have any questions about specimen collection, please contact one of our Laboratory locations listed below for more information:

Concord Hospital Laboratory - Concord (603) 227-7050

Concord Hospital Laboratory - Laconia/Franklin (603) 524-3211 x 13200