

Acceptable containers and conditions for stool specimens



DRAFT

Test	Unpreserved	Cary-Blair	SAF	OBFIT	Special Note	Transportation Conditions Preferred Temperature (allowable transportation time)
Chemistry						
APT Test, Stool	X				Inpatients only; specimen must be red/grossly bloody upon receipt	Room temp (deliver asap to Chemistry Lab)
Electrolytes, Stool	X				Stool must be liquid	Frozen (3 days)
Occult Blood, Feces (Hemocult)	X				Yes (1)	Room temp (14 days)
Occult Blood, Feces (FIT)				X	Yes (2)	Room temp (14 days)
Osmolality, Stool	X				Stool must be liquid	Frozen (3 days)
pH, Stool	X				Yes (3) Stool must be liquid	Frozen (3 days)
Reducing Substances, Stool	X					
Microbiology						
Antigen, Cryptosporidium		X	X			ORANGE Container Refrigerate (1 day) YELLOW Container Refrigerate (1 day) RED Container Refrigerate (1 day)
Antigen, Giardia		X	X			
Antigen, H. pylori	X					
Antigen, Rotavirus	X					
C. difficile by PCR	X					
Culture, AFB	X	X				
Culture, Stool	X	X			Yes (4)	
Culture, Virus	X					
Culture, VRE	X	X			Yes (4)	
Fecal Fat, Qualitative	X					
Fecal Lactoferrin Assay	X					
Fecal Leukocytes	X		X		Yes (5)	
Ova & Parasite			X			
Stain, Cyclospora			X			
Stain, Isospora			X			
Stain, Microsporidium			X			
Send-Out						
Meat Fibers, Fecal (LabCorp)	X					
Meconium Drug Screen	X					Room temp (1 week); Refrigerate (3 months)
Pancreatic Elastase 1 (E1) in Stool	X					Room temp (5 days); Refrigerate (1 week)
Phenolphthalein, Fecal	X					Frozen (2 days)
Trypsin, Fecal	X					Frozen (1 week)

Special Note:

- Occult Blood (Hemocult): Three (3) separate stool specimens should be collected. Please refer to patient instructions for occult blood collection.
- Occult Blood, Feces (FIT): Only one (1) stool specimen should be collected. Please refer to patient instructions for occult blood collection.
- pH / Reducing Substances: Stool must be delivered to lab within 1 hour of collection. Otherwise, the patient must freeze the specimen.
- Culture, Stool and Culture, VRE: Cary Blair (preferred). Unpreserved stool must be received in the Microbiology Laboratory within 2 hours of collection (refrigerated).
- Fecal Leukocytes: SAF (preferred). Unpreserved stool must be received in the Microbiology Laboratory within 1 hour of collection (room temperature or refrigerated).

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