



Stool Parasite Screen and Ova and Parasite Stool Collection

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| How to Prepare | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not use laxatives (including mineral and castor oil), bismuth, barium sulphate, antacids, antibiotics, anti-diarrheal drugs, or enemas for two weeks before collecting stool specimen(s). • Do not contaminate stool with Vagisil, nystatin cream, and spermicidal. • Obtain both a sterile container and SAF yellow top container from clinic or laboratory staff. Both containers are required for testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: If also testing for enteric bacterial panel and/or C. difficile test, the same specimens can be used for all testing. • Do not pour out the SAF solution in the yellow top container. |
| Risks or Cautions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAF (sodium acetate-acetic acid-formaldehyde) solution in the yellow top container is poisonous. Keep out of reach of children. • If swallowed, IMMEDIATELY call the Alberta Poison & Drug Information Service (PADIS) at 1-800-332-1414. |
| Labelling the Specimen | <p>Specimen containers MUST be labelled with full first and last name AND personal health number or it will NOT be tested.</p> <p>Label the collection container(s) with ALL the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your (the patient) full first and last name. • Your unique personal health number (Alberta PHN or ULI#). Date-of-birth is NOT sufficient. • The date and time of specimen collection. <div data-bbox="1117 835 1495 1157"> </div> <p>Alberta PHN is found on the Alberta Personal Health Card. Connect Care Medical Record Number (MRN), or other provincial health care numbers are acceptable. If you do not have a PHN or ULI please ask your local laboratory for alternatives.</p> |
| Lab Requisition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print the date and time the stool specimen was collected on your lab requisition. • Fold and place the lab requisition in the outside pocket of the plastic specimen bag. • If Ova & Parasite Microscopy is ordered, the Parasite History Form must be completed by your physician, or history provided with the Connect Care order. |
| Collecting the Specimen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinate completely first to prevent urine from touching the stool specimen. • Collect the stool specimen into a clean, dry disposable container (e.g., paper plate), or on to plastic wrap placed between the toilet seat and the bowl and collect the stool onto the wrap. DO NOT let water touch the stool specimen. • Take parts of the stool that look bloody or slimy (contain mucus or pus) to add to both collection containers. <p>(continued on page 2)</p> |

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| Collecting the Specimen (continued) | <p>SAF Fixative Container (yellow lid)</p>  <p>Fill Line Fill to this line and NOT ABOVE Testing cannot be performed on overfilled SAF containers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using wooden stick or spork provided with container, fill collection container by adding enough stool to bring the fluid in the SAF container as close to the fill line as possible but not above. • If a whole worm is seen, place it in SAF container. • Close container with the yellow lid. Ensure the lid is tightly closed and not leaking. • Shake closed container until the stool specimen and SAF liquid are well mixed. | <p>Sterile Container (no liquid)</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the provided stick or spork, add 1-2 tablespoons of stool to the specimen container. DO NOT fill more than half full. • Close container with the lid. Ensure the lid is tightly closed and not leaking. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label the container with the date and time of collection. • Place container(s) in the provided plastic resealable bag(s). • Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after collecting the specimen. • Do not transfer stool specimens from one specimen container to another. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If collecting multiple stool specimens on different days write the date and time of each collection on the corresponding container. • For infant or toddler who is not yet using the toilet, line the diaper with plastic wrap. Place it so the pee runs into the diaper and not the wrap. Using a disposable stick or spoon, scoop stool specimen from the plastic wrap and into the container(s) as above. Do not submit stool specimen in diapers. | | |
| Specimen Delivery to Lab | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport the specimen(s), requisition(s), and History Form (if applicable) to the laboratory as soon as possible. • If the stool specimen cannot be delivered to the laboratory immediately after collection, keep refrigerated and deliver to laboratory within 24 hours. • If collecting multiple specimens on different days, deliver each specimen on the day collected. Do not wait until all are collected. • Specimen containers that are leaking when received will NOT be tested. | |
| Questions About Your Collection? | <p>Laboratory location, hours and contact information may be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.albertaprecisionlabs.ca • Alberta Precision Laboratories at 1-877-868-6848 • Health Link Alberta at 811 | |