

Patient Instructions for Stool collection for Ova and Parasite Examination Tests

1. Confirm the orange Cap collection container is labeled correctly with:

- your (the patient) first and last name,
- the date and time of collection, and
- another identifier such as date of birth or healthcare number.

Incorrectly or incompletely labeled specimens will not be tested.

2. If you are given **multiple container sets**, you need to collect the samples at different times.

- **Do not** use laxatives, antacids or anti-diarrheal medication for at least 1 week before collection of the specimen.

3. First pass urine into the toilet (if you have to).

4. Collect the stool specimen in a clean wide-mouthed container (or directly into the sterile plastic cup provided by lab) (eg. paper plate).

The stool specimen must not come in contact with water or urine.

5. Carefully unscrew the cap from the plastic collection container. Do not touch the inside of the lid or container with your fingers.

6. Using the applicator stick, fill the container half full.

- Do not add any foreign materials such as toilet paper or plastic wrap.
- Collect stool from areas that look bloody, mucousy or watery.

A. *Using a disposable spoon or applicator stick, transfer a small piece of stool to each of the O & P containers.*

B. *Close cap tightly and mix. If you get any of the preservatives on your hands, wash with soap and water immediately.*

7. **If a culture and sensitivity is also ordered, then close the cap on the orange capped container tightly and bring that along with the O & P containers.** (If the outside of the container is contaminated with stool, wash the exterior with soap and water, dry and place in the bag provided)

8. Seal the container in the zip locked section of the bag and requisition in the pouch section of the bag.

9. Wash your hands with soap and water.

10. Bring the container and lab requisition to laboratory **as soon as possible.**

