



**LEGACY  
LABORATORY  
SERVICES**

## Preferred Specimen Collection/Transport Guide for Stool Orders

Test	Transport Type			Stability	Turn Around Time	Comments
	PVA & Formalin, 10%	Enteric Transport	Fresh Stool			
Culture Stool Rules out Yersinia, E. coli O157, Shigella, Salmonella and Campylobacter (Vibrio on request)		X		24 hours	72 hours	Fresh stool is also acceptable. Deliver to the laboratory within 1 hour after collection. Keep at room temperature. <b>DO NOT REFRIGERATE FRESH STOOL FOR STOOL CULTURE.</b>
O&P Screen	X			1 month	24 - 48 hours	Screen for Giardia and Cryptosporidium antigens only.
Full Parasite Exam Includes the screen for Giardia and Cryptosporidium	X			1 month	24 - 48 hours	Includes Giardia/Crypto screen. <b>DO NOT ORDER FULL EXAM AND SCREEN ON SAME SPECIMEN.</b>
C Difficile Toxin			X	3 days refrigerated	48 hours	Stool in Enteric Transport, though not preferred, will still be accepted. <b>DO NOT FREEZE.</b>
Fecal Occult Blood			X (or card)	Fresh stool stable for 1 hour at room temp. Card is stable 2 weeks at room temp.	24 hours	This test cannot be performed on preserved stool specimens. The specimen has to be fresh or on a card. Card is preferable for outpatient or outreach clients.
Fecal Fat, Qualitative			X	3 hours at room temp. 24 hours refrigerated	24 hours	This is a qualitative test only for split and neutral fats.
Fecal Leukocytes			X	1 hour at room temp. 24 hours refrigerated	1 hour	Number reported per high power field. No interpretation included.
Pinworm	SWUBE or Clear tape			48 hours at room temp.	24 hours	Looks for Pinworm eggs. Magic Transparent tape does not work, use plain Clear tape.
Culture Virus	Fresh stool or stool in M4 media			24 hours refrigerated	14 days	Can recover CMV, Enterovirus and/or Adenovirus.
Rotavirus	Fresh stool			2 hours at room temp. 2 days refrigerated	24 hours	Specific season for this virus. This is a direct antigen test.
AFB Culture	Fresh stool			3 hours at room temp. 24 hours refrigerated	6 weeks	All AFB smears will be read within 24 hours. Cultures can take up to 6 weeks.

For questions, please call Dr. Mitch Ryan, Medical Director for Microbiology, at (503) 413-7636, or Claudia Atherton, System Manager for Microbiology, at (503) 413-2828.