LEGACY HEALTH | LEGACY LABORATORY SERVICES

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	(1 hr)	1 hour fresh room temp 72 hours in enteric transport RT or Refrigerated	72 hours	Fresh stool is also acceptable within 1 hour after collection. Keep at room temperature. **DO NOT REFRIGERATE FRESH STOOL FOR STOOL CULTURE**.
Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel by PCR		X		4 days room temp 4 days refrigerated	24 hours	Detects 22 most common pathogens: Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Plesiomonas, Yersinia, Vibrio, Shiga toxin producing E. coli, other enteropathogenic E. coli, Clostridium difficile toxin A/B, Cryptosporidium, Cyclospora, Entamoeba histolytica, giardia lamblia, Adenovirus 40/41, Astrovirus, Norovirus GI&II, Rotavirus A, Sapovirus. NOTE: Test does not differentiate carrier versus disease states.
O&P Screen	X		(1 hr)	1 month	24 - 48 hours	Screen for Giardia and Cryptosporidium antigens only.
Full Parasite Exam Includes screen for Giardia and Cryptosporidium	X		(1 hr)	1 month	24 - 48 hours	Includes Giardia/Crypto screen. **DO NOT ORDER FULL EXAM AND SCREEN ON SAME SPECIMEN**.
C Difficile Toxin			X	3 days refrigerated 1 hour room temp	48 hours	**UNFORMED Stool only**. Stool in Enteric Transport, though not preferred, will be accepted. **DO NOT FREEZE**.
Fecal Immunochemical Test **FE IOB**			Must be in OC-Auto Sampling Bottle	Stool specimens in Sampling Bottles are stable for up to 15 days at room temp. 30 days refrigerated.	24 – 72 hours	This test cannot be performed on fresh or preserved stool specimens. The specimen should be collected in the sampling bottle. **DO NOT FREEZE**
Fecal Occult Blood **Hemoccult SENSA**			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 should be fresh or on a card. Card needed 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.
Helicobacter pylori stool antigen			X	1 hour room temp. 72 hours refrigerated. Frozen 1 month	24 hours	Fresh stool only, no preservatives, no swabs
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			24 hours at room temp. 3 days refrigerated	24 hours	Looks for Pinworm eggs. Magic Transparent tape does not work, use plain Clear tape.
Rotavirus	Fresh stool			2 hours at room temp. 2 days refrigerated	24 hours	This is a direct antigen test.

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	PVA & Formalin, 10%	Enteric Transport	Fresh Stool			
Norovirus	Fresh stool			2 days refrigerated	24 hours	Detects genotype I & genotype II
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) 944-7908, or Becky Smith, System Manager for Microbiology, at (503) 413-2828.