

# Laboratory Services

## Infant Stool Collection

Your doctor has ordered some tests that require a stool (fecal, bowel movement) specimen. Below are instructions on how to collect a stool specimen. It is important to follow these instructions. Any changes may result in inaccurate test results. If you have any questions, be sure to ask your care provider for assistance.

Read through all instructions before beginning.

### COLLECTION and TRANSPORTATION INSTRUCTIONS

You will need a urine bag, clean container, and clean diaper to properly collect this specimen. Obtain urine bag for the clinician office or laboratory. The urine bag is used to prevent urine from contaminating the stool.

- Attach the urine bag.
  - For Girls, stretch the skin around the urinary opening to remove skin folds. Press the adhesive firmly to the skin around the vagina.
  - For Boys, fit the bag over the penis and scrotum and press the adhesive firmly to the skin.
- Begin with a clean diaper (disposable or cloth).
- Line the diaper with clear plastic wrap (Saran wrap) and place the diaper on the infant.
- Watch the infant closely until there is a bowel movement.
- Immediately remove the soiled diaper and scrape a portion of the specimen into a clean container with a screw-cap lip or the vials provided with the stool collection kit.
- Dispose of the urine bag.
- Complete the information requested on the container label.
  - **Label must include Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, and Date and Time of collection.**

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Patient label must be complete and legible for the sample to be accepted by the laboratory.

Label must be attached to the container, NOT the lid.

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- Place specimen container in sealed plastic bag or sealed secondary container.
- Transport specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible.
- Keep specimen cool, but do not refrigerate or allow to freeze.

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Do NOT send the soiled diaper. The lab will not accept diapers. The stool specimen must be removed from the diaper as soon as possible.

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