

**STOOL COLLECTION GUIDE**

TEST	MINIMUM	SPECIMEN TYPE	STABILITY
C. Difficile Screen, PCR	1 gram –unformed stool	Raw	5 days (refrigerated) 24 hr. (ambient)
	1 gram – unformed stool	Orange Top (Cary Blair)	5 days (ambient)
Enteric pathogen panel	1 gram	Orange Top (Cary Blair)	48 hours (2-8C)
	1 gram	Raw	4 hours (ambient)
Ova & Parasites	To fill line	Pink/Grey Top (Para-Pak)	1 week
	1 gram	Raw	1 hour (refrigerated)
Cryptosporidium	1 gram	Pink Top (Para-Pak)	>72 hours (ambient) 2 weeks (refrigerated)
Giardia	1 gram	Pink Top (Para-Pak)	>72 hours (ambient) 2 weeks (refrigerated)
Cryptosporidium/Giardia	1 gram	Pink Top (Para-Pak)	>72 hours (ambient) 2 weeks (refrigerated)
Fecal Fat Qualitative	Small amount	Raw	5 days (refrigerated)
Fecal Fat Quantitative (Mayo)	Entire 24,48,72-hour collection	Raw	180 days (frozen)
Hemoccult	Hemosure Collection	Hemosure Vial	14 days (ambient)
	Small amount	Raw	24 hours (refrigerated)
Lactoferrin (WBC Fecal Smear)	Small amount	Raw	2 weeks (refrig/ambient)
H. pylori antigen, stool	2 grams or 1 mL	Raw	72 hours (refrigerated)
			14 days (frozen)
Cyclospora Stain, Stool (Mayo)	1 gram – preserved stool	Pink Top (Para-Pak) ECOFIX	21 days (ambient preferred)
	2 gram – unpreserved stool	Raw	72 hrs. (refrigerated)
Microsporidia Species, PCR ( Mayo)	1 gram	Raw ECOFIX	7 days (refrig,ambient, frozen)

\*When sending home kits for raw stool, all sites send home orange screw cap urine cup. This can be sent via courier to St. Cloud Hospital Lab without spillage.

1 teaspoon = 4.7 grams  
28 grams = 1 oz.

1 gram = peanut size  
1 oz. = 5.9 teaspoon or 30 ml