

 Eastern Health Laboratory Medicine	Section: Management System\Eastern Health\Client Services\Collection Manual	
	Title: Collecting a Stool (Bowel Movement) Sample	Number: 11122
		Version: 2.0
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**Collecting Stool (Bowel Movement) Samples for:
Culture, Clostridium difficile toxin, Rotavirus and/or
Ova and Parasites**

NOTE: Testing will not be performed if samples are not properly labeled or the requisition is not complete with the Full name and MCP (Health Care Number).

About the Collection Container(s)

Depending on the tests ordered, you may have one or more of the following following containers:

GI Multiplex Test – bottle labeled Enteric Pathogen Transport, containing pink liquid.

Ova & Parasites – 1 bottle labeled SAF (Sodium Acetate; Acetic Acid; Formaldehyde) containing a clear liquid preservative and 1 bottle labeled Enteric Pathogen Transport, containing pink liquid.

Calprotectin – empty, dry bottle (Mon – Thur)

CAUTION: Poison

The SAF solution is poisonous; keep out of children’s reach. If swallowed, drink lots of milk or water and **IMMEDIATELY** call the 24-hour Poison Information Centre at **1-866-727-1110**



Before you Collect the Sample

DO NOT use a laxative before collecting the stool sample. Empty your bladder (pee) completely so that the stool sample is not contaminated with urine.

How to collect the sample(s)

Collect the stool sample into a clean and dry disposable container such as the supplied toilet hat, a clean plastic ice cream tub, or onto plastic wrap placed under a toilet seat.

DO NOT let toilet water touch the stool sample.

DO NOT send stool samples in diapers. Remove the stool sample from the diaper using plastic spoon.

Adding Stool to the Container(s)

Deposit the stool into the container(s) following the steps in the order below:

1. Put stool into all the containers you were given.
2. Include parts of the stool that are bloody or slimy (mucous/pus).
3. In the dry bottle, add stool to 1/3 of the bottle, cap tightly
4. In the bottle labeled Enteric Pathogen Transport (pink fluid) add stool until the liquid level reaches the fill line, cap tightly.
5. In the container labeled SAF (clear fluid) add stool until liquid level reaches the fill line. DO NOT overfill. Put the cap on tightly and shake the container until the stool and the SAF are well mixed.

**After Collecting
the Sample(s)**

1. Wash hands thoroughly.
2. Label bottle(s) with:
 - First and Last name **AND**
 - MCP (Healthcare) number
 - Date and time of specimen collection.
3. Put the bottle(s) into a biohazard bag and refrigerate
4. Take the specimen(s) to the lab with the physician requisition as soon as possible (within 24 hours after collection).
5. Place physician requisition in the outside pouch of the biohazard bag (do not place requisition in direct contact with sample).