

**ALLINA MEDICAL LABORATORIES -  
STOOL COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS**



1. **Lab:** Circle the test(s) ordered

2. **Patient:** Write your name and the date and time of collection on each container.

Pass the stool sample into a clean dry container - a clean margarine tub, wide-mouthed jar, or aluminum pie pan can all be used. You may also place saran wrap under the seat of the toilet to collect the specimen. **DO NOT** pass the specimen into the toilet water, or directly into the collection containers. For children who are not toilet trained, the diaper can be put on inside out or lined with saran wrap. Specimens should not be scraped from the absorbent surface of the diaper.

Test Name	Test #/ Code	Container	Comments
C difficile Toxin A/B	6588/CDT	Clean Container or Cary Blair Transport Vial	One specimen/day. <i>Formed stool unacceptable.</i> <b>Clean Container:</b> Refrigerate after collection. Must reach AML within 48 hrs of collection. <b>Cary Blair Transport:</b> Add stool to line and mix well. Refrigerate or room temp after collection. Must reach AML within 5 days of collection.
Cryptosporidium Test	6542/CRY	Cary Blair Transport Vial	Add stool to the line and mix well. Refrigerate after collection. Must reach AML within 7 days of collection.
Culture	6562/STL	Cary Blair Transport Vial	Add stool to the line and mix well. Refrigerate after collection. Vial must reach AML within 72 hours of collection. <b>Collect only one specimen per day.</b> Note: 2-3 specimens collected in separate vials on separate days are recommended.
Giardia Antigen	6695/GIA	Cary Blair Transport Vial	Add stool to line & mix well. Refrigerated vial must reach AML within 7 days of collection. <i>One specimen is sufficient for detection.</i>
Heliobacter pylori Ag	4767/HPS	MML Stool Collection Container, FROZEN	Swabs in transport media, preserved or watery diarrheal stools are inappropriate for testing
Microsporidium Stain	994/MSO	ECOFIX Vial	More than one collection per day is unacceptable.
Occult Blood, Stool	348/OBS	Plastic Urine Container, Refrigerated	Submit actual specimen collection date on the request form
Ova &Parasites (O&P)	6596/OP	ECOFIX Vial	Add stool to the line & mix well. Hold at room temperature. There is no time limit for return to AML. <b>Collect only one specimen per day.</b> Note: <i>Three specimens for parasite exams, collected two days apart, in separate vials, are recommended.</i>
Rotavirus Antigen	5780/ROV	Plastic Screw Cap Vial	Rectal swabs and meconium stool are unacceptable. Refrigerate after collection. Must reach AML within 72 hrs of collection.
VRE (Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus) Culture	6550/VRE	Culture Swab or Sterile Container	Stool, rectal swab or other specimen must be received at AML within 24 hours of collection. Swab should be transported at ambient temp, sterile container refrigerated.
Vibrio Culture	6536/VIB	Cary Blair Transport Vial	Add stool to the line and mix well. Refrigerate and return to AML within 72 hours of collection. <b>Collect only one specimen per day.</b>
Viral Culture	4726/VST	MML Stool Collection Container	Transport refrigerated.

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WBC-Stool	6608/WBS	Plastic Screw Cap Vial	Refrigerated specimen must reach AML within 24 hours of collection. <b>Collect only one specimen per day.</b>
Yersinia Culture	6534/YER	Cary Blair Transport Vial	Add stool to the line & mix well. Refrigerate after collection & return to AML within 72 hours. <b>Collect only one specimen per day.</b>
Electrolytes , Feces	185/ELS	MML Stool Collection Container - FROZEN	Stool MUST BE LIQUID - <b>DO NOT SUBMIT FORMED STOOL</b>
Fecal Fat, Quantitative	316/QFF	MML Stool Collection Container, FROZEN	Room temp specimens will be rejected, refrigerated is acceptable. Patient should be on a diet including 100 grams of fat per day for three days prior to the collection and during the collection. No laxatives (particularly mineral oil, or castor oil). No synthetic fat substitutes (eg. Olestra) or fat blocking nutritional substitutes. If patient has Barium required procedures - wait 48 hours before collection. Keep refrigerated during collection. MINIMUM collection period is 24 hrs - 48 to 72 hours is recommended. Length of collection is REQUIRED. Label containers <u>X</u> of <u>X</u> and send all containers.
Occult Blood, Stool (Random or 3 Day)	348/OBS (Random) 5380/OB3 (3 Day)	Random stool, or Random stool from different days in plastic urine containers - <b>NO PRESERVATIVES</b>	Can also submit test card with collection dates documented. Cards must be received at AML within 10 days - if >14 days, specimens will be rejected.
Osmolality, Feces	4326/OSM	MML Stool Collection Container	Stools must be watery. Formed stool will be rejected.
Ph, Stool	365/PHS	Plastic Screw Cap Vial, FROZEN	Specimen is unacceptable if either barium or urine are present.
Porphyrins, 24 Hr	994/MSO	24 hr stool collection in a foil wrapped MML Stool Collection container	PROTECT FROM LIGHT. Random specimen will be rejected & specimen submitted must contain at least 100 grams. Length of collection period is required. Patient should be off all medications, if possible, for at least one week. If clinically inappropriate to discontinue, submit a list of medications with the specimen. Patient should be instructed to refrain from red meat 3 days prior to specimen collection. Compliance should be indicated.
Reducing Substances	312/RSS	Plastic Screw Cap Vial, FROZEN	Solid stools and stools collected in a diaper or preservative will be rejected. If O&P is requested on the same specimen, freeze a small aliquot before placing the specimen in the preservative vial.