



Collection Procedure for C – Difficile Culture / Toxin and/or Fecal Leukocyte Exam

- ✓ Follow physician instructions for collection frequency, usually one or two specimens are collected.
- ✓ You should be given a clean, screw top container for the collection of each specimen requested.
- ✓ For each collection, pass a small amount of fresh stool into a clean, dry container. Take care not to contaminate the stool with urine or toilet water. If collected in a diaper, line the diaper with plastic prior to avoid absorption.
- ✓ Open the container and using a wooden stick, place small scoops of stool into the container. Select areas that appear bloody, slimy or watery.
- ✓ Check all containers to be certain they are tightly closed.
- ✓ Label each container with your first and last name and the date and time collected. Place the containers into the specimen bag and refrigerate or place on ice until transported to the laboratory.
- ✓ Thoroughly wash your hands and discard all supplies in the trash. Excess specimen should be discarded in the toilet.
- ✓ Return the containers to the laboratory with any accompanying paperwork as soon as possible.
- ✓ Note: You may also receive additional containers that contain liquid preservative. Collect these specimens following the instructions provided with them. If you are collecting both types of specimens, collect the specimen in the empty cup on the last day and deliver to the laboratory as soon as possible.