



Wyoming  
Department  
of Health

Commit to your health.

# Wyoming Public Health Laboratory

Combined Laboratories Facility  
208 South College Drive  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
UPS and FedEx use 82007  
**307.777.7431 FAX 307.777.6422**



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## FECAL BACTERIA \ NOROVIRUS PROTOCOL

**PLEASE READ ALL DIRECTIONS FIRST AND THEN FOLLOW THEM CAREFULLY.**

**WASH HANDS BEFORE BEGINNING THE COLLECTION PROCEDURE.**

The stool transport vial is labeled ETM and contains a red transport media. **Do not discard or drink this liquid.**

**DO NOT** pass the specimen into the toilet.

**DO NOT** pass the specimen directly into the collection vial.

**DO NOT** urinate on the specimen or into the collection vial.

**DO NOT** allow any water to mix with the specimen.

Pass the stool specimen into any clean and dry container such as a bedpan, a plastic bag, a plastic plate or newspaper.

Carefully open the zip loc package and remove the ETM vial. Using the spoon attached to the cap, collect small amounts of stool from areas that are slimy, watery, or bloody and place into each vial. If the stool is hard, collect small amounts from both ends and the middle and place into each vial.

**IMPORTANT: FILL EACH VIAL WITH SPECIMEN UNTIL THE LIQUID REACHES THE FILL LINE LOCATED ON THE LABEL. DO NOT FILL ABOVE THE FILL LINE.**

**IMPORTANT: MAKE CERTAIN THAT BOTH VIALS ARE TIGHTLY CAPPED TO AVOID LEAKAGE.**

Wash your hands well with soap and water. Write patient name and date collected on the ETM label.

Fill out the WPHL test request form and check the box that indicates Enteric Screen. Place the ETM vial back in its zip loc bag and put this in the Biohazard bag with absorbent paper. Put the WPHL test request form in the outside sleeve of the Biohazard bag. Place these contents into the aluminum mailing container and secure the cap. Place the aluminum mailing container inside the cardboard mailer. Ship as a diagnostic specimen following postal or carrier shipping regulations.

**Specimens being collected for enteric bacterial pathogens may be kept at room temperature for up to 96 hours.**

**NOROVIRUS:** If the specimen is being collected to screen for Norovirus, keep the specimen refrigerated and ship overnight on cold packs.

**IMPORTANT: IF ANY LIQUID FROM THE VIALS OR THE STOOL SPECIMEN GETS INTO YOUR EYES OR ON YOUR SKIN, RINSE THE AREA WITH WATER. IF ANY DISCOMFORT OR IRRITATION DEVELOPS, CONTACT A PHYSICIAN.**