

FECAL BACTERIA\ NOROVIRUS PROTOCOL

DIRECTIONS (PLEASE READ ALL DIRECTIONS FIRST AND FOLLOW THEM CAREFULLY. WASH HANDS BEFORE BEGINNING THE PROCEDURE.)**

1. The stool transport vial is labeled C&S MEDIUM and contains a red transport media. **Do not discard or drink this liquid.**
2. **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.
3. Pass the stool specimen into any clean and dry container such as a bedpan, a plastic bag, a plastic plate or newspaper.
4. Remove the C&S MEDIUM vial. Using the spoon attached to the cap, collect small amounts of stool from areas that are slimy, watery, or bloody and place them into the vial. If the stool is hard, collect small amounts from both ends and the middle and place into the vial.

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

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

5. Wash your hands well with soap and water. Write patient name and date collected on the C&S MEDIUM label.
6. Fill out the Laboratory Requisition Form and check the appropriate box (ie. Norovirus &/ or Enteric Screen (FB)). Place the C&S MEDIUM into the Biohazard bag with absorbent paper. Place these contents into the aluminum mailing container and cap. Place the aluminum mailing container inside the cardboard mailer. The Laboratory Requisition Form should also be inside the cardboard mailing container, but outside of the aluminum mailing container. Return the double mailing container(s) to the health care provider you received them from, or ship via USPS unless overnight delivery is requested.
7. **Specimens being collected for enteric bacterial pathogens may be kept at ambient temperature for up to 96 hours.**
8. **NOROVIRUS: If the specimen is being collected to screen for Norovirus, keep the specimen refrigerated and ship overnight on cold packs.**
9. **IMPORTANT: IF ANY LIQUID FROM THE VIALS OR STOOL SPECIMEN GETS INTO YOUR EYES OR ON YOUR SKIN, RINSE THE AREA WITH PLENTY OF WATER. IF ANY DISCOMFORT OR IRRITATION DEVELOPS, CONTACT A PHYSICIAN.**