

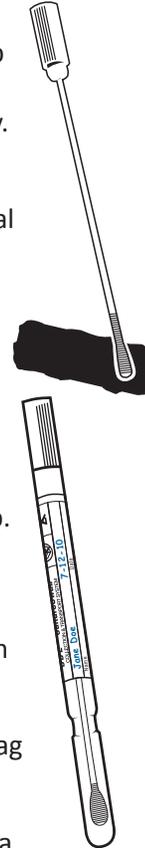


Patient Instructions for Stool Specimen Collection for Bacterial Analysis Using a Cary Blair Swab

1. **Wash hands with soap and water** before beginning stool specimen collection (bowel movement).
2. Completely fill out the information on the test requisition. **Print legibly.**
3. Peel open the CultureSwab pouch.
4. Write the **patient's full name, date and time that the specimen is collected** on the outside of the capped swab tube. **Print legibly.**
5. **To collect a stool specimen**, before using the toilet, lift up the toilet seat and place a piece of wax paper or plastic wrap over the toilet bowl secured by adhesive tape to prevent the sample from falling into the toilet bowl.



6. Make a depression in the plastic wrap or wax paper to aid specimen collection. Lower the toilet seat and proceed with expelling bowel movement (stool specimen). Do not expel the specimen into the toilet. **Do not urinate on the specimen.**
7. Remove and discard the cap from swab tube.
8. Remove applicator swab and collect specimen. Dip the swab into the stool from areas that appear bloody, slimy or watery.
9. The quantity of specimen is important; visible fecal material must be present.
10. Place stool coated swab into the tube, pushing it below the surface of the semi-solid Cary Blair preservative.
11. The opposite end of the swab now serves as a tight-fitting cap.
12. Make sure that the person's name and date of collection is on the outside of the specimen swab.
13. Place the swab in the plastic bag and seal it.
14. Place the sealed plastic bag in a paper or plastic bag
15. Dispose of the remainder of stool in the toilet and discard the soiled plastic wrap by placing in a paper or plastic bag. Place this bag into a plastic bag. Close the plastic bag with a twist tie and place it in the garbage.



16. **Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.**
17. Place specimen swab (in paper or plastic bag) in the refrigerator until it is returned to the Health Department.
18. Deliver the bag with the specimen container as soon as possible within 24 hours of collection, unless otherwise instructed, to the following facility :

Name of Facility

Address _____

Phone _____

Hours _____

For any questions, please call:

Thank you for your time and cooperation.