

Enteric Pathogens Culture, Feces

Test ID: STL

Explanation: On the effective date, Mayo Supply T995 – Copan Fecal Swab, will become the new preferred specimen type for routine stool culture testing.

Current Specimen Required	New Specimen Required
Specimen Type: Preserved Feces Patient Preparation: Patient should not use barium or bismuth for 7 to 10 days before specimen collection. Supplies: Culture and Sensitivity Stool Transport Vial (T058) Container/Tube: Commercially available transport system specific for recovery of enteric pathogens from fecal specimens (15 mL of non-nutritive transport medium containing phenol red as a pH indicator, either Cary-Blair or Para-Pak C and S) Specimen Volume: Representative portion of fecal specimen Collection Instructions: 1. Collect fresh feces and submit 1 gram or 5 mL in container with transport medium. 2. Place feces in preservative within 2 hours of collection. 3. Place vial in a sealed plastic bag.	 Submit only 1 of the following specimens: Preferred: Specimen Type: Fecal Swab Supplies: Copan Fecal Swab (T995) Container/Tube: Culture transport swab (Dacron or rayon swab with aluminum or plastic shaft with either Stuart or Amies liquid medium) Specimen Volume: Representative portion of fecal specimen Collection Instructions: 1. Remove swab from packaging. 2. Collect a small amount of stool by inserting all the tip of the flocked swab into the stool sample and rotate. 3. Transfer swab into the tube with preservative medium within 2 hours of collection and visually check to ensure MAX fill line not exceeded. 4. Mix stool specimen against side of tube to evenly disperse. 5. Break swab off into the tube. 6. Place screw cap in tube and tighten. 7. Shake vial until sample homogenous. 8. Place vial in a sealed plastic bag. Specimen Stability Information: Refrigerated 3 days (preferred)/Ambient 2 days Acceptable: Specimen Type: Preserved Feces Supplies: Culture and Sensitivity Stool Transport Vial (T058) Container/Tube: Commercially available transport system specific for recovery of enteric pathogens from fecal specimens (15 mL of non-nutritive transport medium containing phenol red as a pH indicator, either Cary-Blair or Para-Pak C and S) Specimen Volume: Representative portion of fecal specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Collect fresh feces and submit 1 gram or 5 mL in container with transport medium.

2. Place feces in preservative within 2 hours of collection.

3. Place vial in a sealed plastic bag.

Specimen Stability Information: Ambient 4 days (preferred)/Refrigerated 4 days

Current Specimen Stability			
Specimen	Temperature	Time	
Fecal	Ambient (preferred)	4 days	
	Refrigerated	4 days	

New Specimen Stability			
Specimen	Temperature	Time	
Fecal	Varies	Varies	

Current Shipping Instructions:

Specimen must arrive within 96 hours (4 days) of collection.

New Shipping Instructions:

Specimens must arrive within 72 hours of collection if using fecal swabs (T995) or within 4 days of collection if using Culture and Sensitivity stool transport vial (T058).

Questions

Contact Brandon DeBoom, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.