



**PARKVIEW HEALTH  
LABORATORIES**

TRUSTED CARE

**ENTERIC (STOOL) CULTURE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Stool should be collected in a hat or sterile container that fits on the stool and not directly from the toilet.
2. Unwrap the sterile swab/container and discard the clear cap. The cotton-tipped stick should be used to swab the stool specimen.
3. Insert the swab into the carrier so the cotton-tipped end is inserted into the gel.
4. Wash hands after collection
5. Specimen should be labeled with full legal patient name, date of birth, date and time of collection
6. Return the specimen as soon as possible to the lab for testing. This should remain at room temperature no longer than 48 hours.
7. If the physician requests this test multiple times, then the collections should take place on different days at least 48 hours apart.

If you have any questions about the collection of stool specimens please call Parkview Health Laboratories Microbiology at (260) 373-9500.