

STOOL CULTURE

Orderable – STLC

Turnaround Time: 2 days

Alternate Name(s):

Faeces Culture

Specimen Type and Collection Information:

This sample type cannot be processed as a STAT request. Samples are handled as they are received and results are reported as they become available.



Laboratory:
Microbiology




Requisition:
Electronic Order



Method of Analysis:
Culture



Test Schedule:
Daily

Specimen	Collection Information	Collection Device
<p>Stool Colostomy or Ileostomy contents</p>	<p>Have patient pass stool into a clean, dry bedpan or special container mounted to toilet.</p> <p>Transfer portion of stool (5 mL/1 gram) to fill to the line on the enteric transport device. Select portion containing mucous, blood or pus to the enteric transport media.</p> <p>Avoid contamination with urine.</p>	

Avoid the use of mineral oil, compounds containing Kaolin or barium, bismuth, Milk of Magnesia, antacids, prior to collection.

Rectal swabs are inferior specimens for isolation of enteric pathogens.

Special Processing:

- If the sample is being collected to check for clearance of a previously identified pathogen, indicate this in the **Specimen Description** field when placing the order in PowerChart.
- If Aeromonas, Plesiomonas, Vibrio, Campylobacter other than C.jejuni/coli., Enteropathogenic E.coli other than O157 are suspected, specify this in the **Specimen Description** field when placing the order in PowerChart.



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- If food or waterborne outbreaks are suspected, indicate this on the request.
- For Clostridioides (Clostridium) difficile toxin, see separate listing in Lab Test Information Guide
- If patients in the Neonatal Unit are suspected of Necrotizing Syndrome or colonization specify this in the **Specimen Description** field when placing the order in PowerChart.

Comments:

1. Adults:

The Lab routinely screens for Campylobacter jejuni/coli, E.coli O157:H7, Salmonella and Shigella.

Note: if Yersinia is suspected, please indicate when ordering.

2. Children:

The Lab routinely screens for Campylobacter jejuni/coli, E.coli O157:H7, Salmonella, Shigella and Yersinia.

If other pathogens are suspected due to patient history or travel etc., please discuss with the Microbiologist on-call and notify the laboratory in advance.

Some tests may be referred to Public Health Laboratory.

Stool cultures submitted on inpatients admitted for more than 72 hours (adults)/96 hours (pediatric) will not be processed. Contact the Microbiologist on-call if testing is required.

Storage and Shipment:

The specimen must be refrigerated if collected in a sterile container.

The specimen must be stored at room temperature if collected in enteric transport media.

The specimen must be received within 24 hours of collection.