

# Care Gram

## Collection of Stool Sample

### Your doctor has ordered the following test:

- C. diff toxin – plain sterile container, must be watery stool, **refrigerate**
- H. pylori stool – plain sterile container, **refrigerate**
- Qualitative fecal fat – plain sterile container, **refrigerate**
- Culture (SSYCE) – Orange container or plain sterile container, **refrigerate**
- Gastrointestinal Panel – orange container or plain sterile container, **refrigerate**
- O&P – Black Total Fix container, **room temperature or refrigerate**
- Giardia – Black Total Fix container, **room temperature or refrigerate**
- Cryptosporidium – Black Total Fix container, **room temperature or refrigerate**
- Other (fecal NA, K, Lytes) – plain sterile container, liquid specimen only, **refrigerate**

### Collection

- Do not allow urine, toilet water, or toilet tissue to mix with stool.
- Children – you may place plastic wrap inside the diaper and then transfer the stool to the container(s) provided. Do not bring the diaper with the stool in it to the Laboratory.
- Do not collect stool if you have had a barium enema in the last 14 days.

### To collect:

1. Place the collecting container (hat) under the seat and over the bowl of your toilet. The container should be dry.
2. Your bowel movement should be placed in the container.
3. Examine the stool for blood and mucus. Transfer the portions of the stool with blood and mucus to the specimen containers.
4. With the stick provided, add the stool in the plain container first.
5. The orange and black containers have spoons attached to the lids. Use the spoon to transfer the stool into the containers. Do not mix the lids. Add enough stool to bring the fluid up to the line.
6. Tighten the lid securely and then mix the fluid and the stool by shaking the container.
7. Label the container(s) with your name, date of birth, collection date and time. Place the container(s) into the appropriate bag(s) provided and place the container(s) in the storage required (see above).
8. Wash your hands well with soap and water.
9. **Deliver the specimen with the orders to the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Outpatient Laboratory within 2 hours after you complete the collection, or within 24 hours if refrigerated.**

### Finding Out the Results

If you have any questions about your test, contact the LMH Laboratory at (220) 564-4155. You will need to check with the doctor who ordered the test(s) for the results.

This Care Gram is for information purposes only. It may become out-of-date over time. Ask a doctor or a healthcare professional about your specific condition.



**Licking Memorial  
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