

## Stool Specimen Collection Kit Instructions for Public Health Collection Sites

The stool kit will cover testing for Enteric Pathogens and Norovirus. As clinically indicated, the suspected pathogen must be noted on the specimen submission form in the "Laboratory Examination(s) Requested" field. Stool collected for **Campylobacter** testing must be shipped overnight on a cold pack.

An indicator has been incorporated in the Cary Blair medium to indicate a change in pH. If a dramatic change in color (yellow or purple) is observed prior to addition of stool, the kit is unsatisfactory. **Throw the media out and reorder.** Monitor the expiration dates of the Cary Blair medium inventory and order as needed.

### Specimen Collection Kit Contents

1. Stool collection container, (Cary Blair stool container, pink liquid with attached scoop in lid)
2. Protocult™ Collection Device
3. Biohazard bag with absorbent pad
4. Specimen submission form
5. Clear plastic bag for specimen submission form
6. Cold pack
7. Foam packing insert
8. Shipping box

### Specimen Collection Instructions

1. Put an absorbent pad into each biohazard bag.
2. Inform the patient to add stool to the fill in on the container.
3. Inform the patient to **freeze** the cold pack **immediately**.
4. Give the patient the complete kit including the patient's instructions.

### Specimen Submission Form Instructions

1. The public health staff completes the [BOL Specimen Submission Form](#). Note:
  - a) Specific agent suspected: e.g., *NOROVIRUS*, **OUTBREAK (FI) NUMBER**
  - b) Source of specimen: *STOOL*
  - c) Media: *CARY BLAIR*
  - d) Laboratory examination requested: e.g., *norovirus PCR, enteric pathogens*
  - e) **Submitter name, address, phone number, or site number:**
    1. County or Municipal Health Center, OR
    2. State Health Center

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2. **All fields should be completed.** If any fields are unknown by public health staff (e.g., patient's demographic information, onset date, and collection date), **highlight** the fields that will need to be completed by the patient.
3. Place the specimen submission form into the clear plastic bag.
4. Inform the patient to fill in the **first and last name, date of birth, and collection date and time** on the Cary Blair stool container and complete all highlighted fields on the specimen submission form.
5. Inform the patient to return their specimen to the public health site the same day it's collected or in the morning the following day. If the specimen cannot be returned the same day, the shipping box with specimen and cold pack should be refrigerated.

### **BOL Submission Instructions**

Samples may be sent to BOL via the BOL courier service. To request courier, pick up, call Quick Courier at 800-355-1004 for next day delivery to the Bureau of Laboratories. Specimen packages may be picked up at the State Health Center (preferred) or the outbreak facility location. Pickup at a residential address is not permitted. Be prepared to provide the following information:

- a) Account name: PA-BOLOT
- b) Date:
- c) Facility Name (site of outbreak):
- d) Facility Address:
- e) Pick up Location:
- f) Department of Health POC name:
- g) POC cell phone:
- h) Number of packages:
- i) Time packages will be ready for pickup:
- j) Hours available for pickup: