



Laboratory Medicine Department
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PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTING A STOOL SAMPLE FOR CULTURE, TO TEST FOR ROTAVIRUS ANTIGEN, CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE TOXIN AND TO MEASURE CALPROTECTIN

Collect the container from the Sampling Point.

Write your full name and date of collection of the sample on the label.

Collect the stool sample in a clean, dry container or apply a layer of plastic to the inside the toilet bowl to catch the stool and thus collect the sample.

Unscrew the cap of the bottle, keeping the container in a vertical position to avoid spilling the liquid present.

Using the spoon attached to the cap, collect a portion of stool:

0.5-1 g of stool (equivalent to the quantity that can be picked up with the spoon), for culture and the rotavirus antigen test

1-2 g of stool (approximately the size of a chestnut) for the *Clostridium difficile* toxin test and to measure calprotectin

If the stool is liquid, collect the sample directly in the container

Insert the spoon in the container, screwing the cap back on firmly.

Store in a refrigerator (2-8°C) until you deliver it to the Sampling Point, preferably within 2 hours of collecting the sample.

WARNINGS

Do not use laxatives, purgatives or suppositories to evacuate.

Do not contaminate the sample with urine or toilet paper.

Collect the sample before starting any antibiotic therapy and, in any case, within 6 days of the onset of symptoms