

# Update: Stool Specimen Collection

## Steps to avoid rejection of specimens

Effective: June 13, 2019

### What has changed?

Effective June 13, 2019, we have updated the patient specimen collection instructions for stool collection kits.

### Reason for the change:

PDL has identified a **high rejection rate** for stool specimens submitted for analysis. The predominant reason for rejection is overfilling of the collection vials. Overfilled specimens are not tested due to the significant risk for false negative results.

### Background:

Stool specimen collections require specific collection vials depending on the test:

Order code	Test Name	Collection Vial	Lid Color
LAB10100	Cryptosporidium/Giardia, EIA	Total-Fix™	Black
LAB955	Ova & Parasite (O&P) Examination	Total-Fix™	Black
LAB9898	Stool Culture with E.Coli Shiga Toxin	ETM™	Red
LAB8691	C. Difficile Toxin by PCR	ETM™	Red
LAB257	C. Difficile Toxin A&B, EIA	ETM™	Red
LAB731	Lactoferrin	ETM™	Red
LAB8729	GI Panel by PCR	ETM™	Red
LAB8731	Ova & Parasite by PCR	ETM™	Red
LAB10116	Fecal Fat, Qualitative	Para-Pak™	White
LAB397	Helicobacter Pylori Antigen	Para-Pak™	White

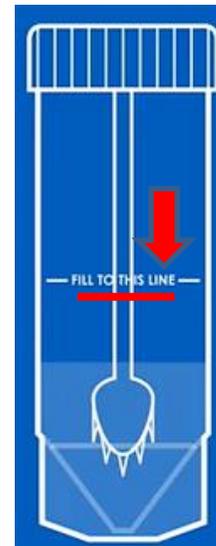
Based on tests ordered, patients may be issued a **Stool Collection kit** that includes:

- ETM™ Vial
- Total-Fix™ Vial
- Patient Instructions
- Biohazard bag



### Filling Collection Vials:

Each vial contains enough preservative to preserve a stool sample the size of 1-4 teaspoons (total amount of stool should be approximately the size of a walnut). Combined preservative and stool volume should not go above the **FILL LINE** noted on the vial.



Once the specimen is added, the vials should be tightly capped and then the specimen should be **vigorously shaken** to ensure the preservative mixes with the sample.

Specimens will be rejected and a recollection will be requested for any of the following:

- Overfilled vials
- Vials that no longer contain the original preservative
- Specimens that are not adequately mixed

### Help requested:

In order to avoid delays due to recollection, please advise patients of these key points when issuing a stool collection kit:

- Do not overfill containers
- Cap tightly and mix well
- Deliver to a PDL Patient service center location within 24 hours

### Updated Instructions are available:

- With new client supply stool kit orders
- Through your PDL sales representative
- Available to print from [www.pdllabs.com](http://www.pdllabs.com)
- PDL Client Services (805) 879-8100

For additional assistance contact PDL Client Services at (805) 879-8100