



PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING STOOL WBC'S

The laboratory staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact us at 526-5305.

Patient Information:

- If you have had barium, bismuth, antidiarrheal medication or oily laxatives, wait until the stool is clear to begin collection.
- Avoid antacids prior to collection.

Specimen Requirements: About 2 tablespoons soft or watery stool

- **Formed or hard stool samples will not be accepted for testing.**

Collection:

1. Pass the stool sample into a clean, dry container. **DO NOT** let the stool specimen touch water or urine.
2. Unscrew the cover of the empty sterile container given to you.
3. Place sample into the container.
Note: Appropriate areas to sample are bloody, slimy (mucous), or watery areas if present.
4. Replace and tighten the container cap.
5. **Write the patient's name, date of birth, collection time and date on the label.**
6. Refrigerate until brought to the laboratory at New London Hospital.
7. Deliver to laboratory within 36 hours of collection.
8. Your doctor may have requested other stool tests, which cannot be collected in this container. You may be asked to collect some samples and put them into other vials.