

Collection of Stool Samples During Outbreaks

You will be given:

- specimen container
- plastic biohazardous Ziploc bag
- requisition form

Instructions:

1. Slip a plastic bag or plastic wrap over the toilet seat to make a pouch or use a clean, empty plastic container (margarine or yogurt container). If your facility has stool collection hats, those can be used as well. Pass stool in the bag/container, do not urinate. **Do not** retrieve stool from the toilet, only from the bag/container. Discard stool hat, containers and plastic wrap/bags after use.
2. Using the spoon attached to the lid of the container or the wooden stick provided, fill the bottle $\frac{3}{4}$ quarters full or to the red fill line.

Note: Use a container with no liquid unless discussed with and approved by your Outbreak Response Lead. If approved, do not pour any liquid out, just add the stool. The liquid in these types of specimen containers is poisonous, please use caution when handling.

3. Cap bottle tightly.
4. Wash hands well.
5. **Complete requisition form(s).** Please indicate on requisition form (notes section) if antibiotics, laxatives, enemas or anti-diarrhea drugs are being used during time of collection. In the ordering physician section, identify the MOH name and contact information provided by your outbreak response lead and cc the report to the family physician. **Ensure the following are written on both container and form.**
 - a. Name
 - b. Personal Health Number
 - c. Date and time that sample was collected
 - d. EI number that was provided to your facility by your outbreak response lead.
6. Place bottle in the Ziploc bag, remove the air and seal. Place requisition form in front sleeve of Ziploc bag. Store in a cool place. Do not freeze or heat. If sample cannot be delivered to the lab right away, place in a refrigerator.
7. Wash your hands again.
8. Return to the nearest lab as soon as possible.

