


Ova and Parasite Collection

This document is applicable at site(s):

All Sites

How to Prepare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not use laxatives, antacids or antidiarrheal medication for at least 2 weeks before collection of the specimen. If these medications were used within the last week, the detection of intestinal protozoa may be compromised.
Risks or Cautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Swallowed: Drink 2-4 cups full of milk or water. Eye contact: Flush thoroughly with running water for at least 15 minutes. *IMMEDIATELY call the Poison Control Centre 1-800-332-1414.*
Labelling the Specimen	<p>Label the collection container with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your (the patient) full first and last name The date and time of specimen collection Your unique personal health number (PHN or ULI#) Alberta PHN is found on the Alberta Personal Health Card  <p>If you do not have a PHN or ULI please ask your local laboratory for alternatives. Please note all specimens need 2 identifiers to be processed.</p>
Lab Requisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print the date and time the sample was collected on your lab requisition. Fold and place the requisition in the outside pocket of the plastic bag.
Collecting the Specimen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Collect the stool specimen in a clean wide-mouthed container (e.g. paper plate or ice cream pail) or a large plastic bag/plastic wrap may be placed over the toilet opening (but under the toilet seat) and the stool specimen passed onto the plastic. The stool specimen must not come in contact with water or urine. Note: For small children having diarrhea, fasten plastic kitchen wrap to the diaper using childproof safety pins. After the bowel movement, remove stool from the liner and transfer it into the collection vial. Please do this at home. Stool collected in diapers is not acceptable for testing. Carefully unscrew the cap from the SAF plastic collection container. Do not touch the inside of the lid or container with your fingers. Using the fork/spoon which is attached to the lid of the SAF container, place scoops of stool into the container especially from areas that look bloody, show mucous or water. Add stool until the liquid comes to the 'FILL LINE' on the container. Do not overfill. Mix thoroughly with the fork/spoon. Do not add any foreign materials such as toilet paper or plastic wrap. Close the screw cap tightly. If using container with preservative, shake the container several times. If instructed, fill out the Patient History Sheet on page 2.
Specimen Delivery to Lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring your specimen and requisition to your local laboratory as soon as possible. Store at room temperature.
Questions About Your Collection?	<p>Laboratory location, hours and contact information may be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://myhealth.alberta.ca Health Link Alberta at 811

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**Patient History Sheet
Ova and Parasite Examination**

Name: _____ Age: _____ Male: ____ Female: ____

Doctor's Name: _____

• Have you ever lived in a country other than Canada? YES or NO
If 'YES' Where: _____ and When: _____

• Recent travel outside Canada or USA? YES or NO
If 'YES' Where: _____ and When: _____

• Do you eat:

Rare steak?	YES	or	NO
Poorly cooked fish?	YES	or	NO
Raw sausages?	YES	or	NO
Unwashed vegetables?	YES	or	NO

• Symptoms: Diarrhea? YES or NO If 'YES' How long? _____

• Known carrier? YES or NO Organism(s):

• Treatment: Drug(s)

• Is this examination for an Immigration Medical? YES or NO