STOOL, CULTURE AND SENSITIVITY  (Stool C&S)  (Rev 2017-09-21)

SAMPLE REQUIRED: Stool
CONTAINER TYPE: Stool collection container, Cary Blair medium (Blue cap, pink fluid)
INFORMATION: For inquiries, contact Valley Medical Laboratories at 250-763-4813.

BEFORE COLLECTION:

- If other samples are also requested (e.g. Ova & Parasites, Culture & Sensitivity, C. Difficile), the same bowel movement may be used. (Samples must go into the proper container for each test.)
- If multiple samples of the same type are requested, subsequent containers will be provided upon the receipt by the lab of the current sample.
- Consider the following before collecting samples, as delays in transport may affect results or acceptability of samples:
  - Samples must be returned to the lab during regular hours (e.g. don’t collect on a Saturday)
  - If stored at room temperature, return to the laboratory within 12 hours
  - If refrigerated (4°C), return to the laboratory within 24 hours. DO NOT FREEZE.

COLLECTION PROCEDURE: (Do not discard liquid preservative in container)

1. Urinate into the toilet if needed.

2. Collect the sample by one of three ways. Do not let urine or toilet water touch the sample.
   - Into a clean bowl or clean bedpan
   - Onto plastic wrap: Lift the toilet seat and place sheets of plastic wrap (e.g. Saran Wrap™) over the toilet bowl, leaving a slight dip in the center. Place the toilet seat down to hold in place. Pass stool onto plastic wrap.
   - Young children: Line a diaper with plastic wrap, and place the diaper on the child. Remove the stool from the plastic wrap as soon as possible after a bowel movement.

3. Within 30 minutes, use the spoon attached to the cap to add 2-3 spoonfuls of stool into the container until the fluid is at the “FILL LINE”. Do not overfill the container(s). (If present, collect bloody or mucousy areas of the stool.)

4. Tighten cap(s) securely and shake to mix.

5. Wash hands with soap and water. Write on each container:
   - Full name
   - Date of birth and/or Health Care Number
   - Ordering physician
   - Specimen type (stool)
   - Date and time of collection

Place container into plastic bag and seal. Use a separate bag for each container.

6. Bring the container(s) back to the lab as soon as possible.

See “BEFORE COLLECTION” above.

Samples must be returned during regular hours. Until specimens can be brought to the lab, they can be stored at room temperature, or refrigerated at 4°C. DO NOT FREEZE.