

2015

Stool Sample

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General information

The doctor who examined you in the Emergency Department thinks a sample of your stool may help in making your diagnosis.

You have been given a kit of materials that you will need. In this kit you'll find:

- Bottles for the stool sample: the fluid inside is poisonous and not to be swallowed. **Keep out of reach of children.**
- A requisition: this piece of paper tells the lab what tests are needed.
- A plastic bag: put your bottle with the stool sample in this bag when you take it to the lab.

Don't take the following medicine for 5 days before obtaining the stool samples: mineral oil, Pepto-Bismol®, barium, Kaopectate®. If you are taking medicine for an infection, please write the name on the requisition.

Collecting a stool sample

- Take off the top of the bottle.
- Pass stool in a clean, dry container such as an ice cream container or any clean plastic container with a large opening. Take care not to let water or urine touch the stool sample.
- Collect the sample from any bloody, slimy, or loose part of the stool with the spoon attached to the bottle cap.

- Put the sample in the bottle. Put the cap on tight.
- Shake the bottle with the gel vigorously (hard and fast) to mix the sample with the liquid.
- Wash your hands.

After you collect your sample

Fill in the following information on both the requisition and label(s) of the collection bottle(s):

- Full name and date of birth
- Health card number
- Collection date and time

If you don't fill in this information completely, the specimen may not get processed.

- Put the requisition in the side pocket of the plastic bag provided. **DO NOT** put it in the bag with the bottle.
- The specimen needs to be taken to the lab within **4 hours** of being collected.

Take the specimen and the completed requisition to:

Mackenzie Building
(main lobby)
Victoria General site
5788 University Avenue
Halifax

The Mackenzie building
is open 24 hours a day
and on holidays.

OR: Dartmouth General
Hospital laboratory
325 Pleasant Street
Dartmouth

Hours at DGH lab:
Monday & Friday:
7 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday:
7 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Saturday:
8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Test results

Make an appointment to see your family doctor within 7 days after you take your specimen to the Lab. The results are not available from the Emergency Department staff.

Your family doctor can get the results by calling 902-473-2266.

If you have any questions, please ask staff or talk to your regular healthcare provider.

We are here to help you.

Looking for more health information?

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.
For more information go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

*Capital Health promotes a smoke-free, vape-free, and scent-free environment.
Please do not use perfumed products. Thank you!*

Capital Health, Nova Scotia
www.cdha.nshealth.ca

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