# Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel Collection Method Specifications



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- 1. GI Panel Instruction Sheet (this document)
- 2. Infectious Diseases Test Requisition Form
- 3. Specimen Collection Device (1 swab)
- 4. Bio-hazard Bag

## COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS Stool Collection Kit:

#### Contents:

Patient Instructions Two latex free gloves Stool collection device (disposable device which attaches to the toilet) Specimen tube Nylon Flocked Swab 1 Sharpie pen Bio-hazard bag

### 2.1 PATIENT GUIDELINES FOR GASTROINTESTINAL STOOL SAMPLE COLLECTION

- 1.) Wash hands and dry thoroughly.
- 2.) Open the collection kit, remove the latex free gloves and place on each hand
  - a.) Be careful not to touch other items in the kit as you remove the gloves.
- 3.) Remove the Stool Collection Device:

a.) Follow the first two steps outlined with the collection device. This affixes a disposable collection device to the toilet & allows sanitary sampling of the stool sample.

**4.)** Following bowel movement into the affixed stool collection device, the stool sample should be examined to identify portions that contain blood or mucous flecks (that often contain infectious pathogens).

**5.)** Open the package containing the swab and remove the flocked swab by the handle (do not touch the flocked tip of the swab). Submerge the swab tip directly into the representative area identified (containing blood & mucous). Slowly rotate the swab 3 times to thoroughly coat. Withdraw the swab coated with stool.

**6.)** Without contaminating the swab (do not lay it on any surface), place the swab directly into the specimen tube (all the way to the bottom of the tube). Snap the handle of the swab at the visible break mark and discard the disposable plastic handle of the swab.

7.) Recap the specimen tube carefully to ensure that the cap seals tightly. Using the pen included in the

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kit, label the tube [name & date] and place in the Bio-hazard bag.

**8.)** The Stool Collection Device can be detached and flushed down the toilet (Step 3 included with the collection device).

9.) Remove the gloves and discard. Wash and dry hands.

### 2.2 PATIENT GUIDELINES FOR GASTROINTESTINAL RECTAL SWAB SAMPLE COLLECTION Swab Collection Kit: *If possible, collect this sample immediately after a bowel movement.* Contents:

Patient Instructions Two latex free gloves Specimen tube Nylon Flocked Swab 1 Sharpie pen Bio-hazard bag

1.) Wash hands and dry thoroughly.

2.) Open the collection kit, remove the latex free gloves and place on each hand

**3.)** Open the package containing the swab and remove the flocked swab by the handle (do not touch the flocked tip of the swab).

4.) Insert the tip of the Swab approximately 1 inch beyond the anal sphincter.

5.) Slowly rotate the swab 3 times and withdraw.

**6.)** Without contaminating the swab (do not lay it on any surface), place the flocked tip of the swab into the specimen tube allowing it to go all the way to the bottom. Snap the handle of the swab at the visible break mark and discard the disposable plastic handle of the swab.

**7.)** Recap the specimen tube carefully to ensure that the cap seals tightly. Using the pen included in the kit, label the tube [name & date] and place in the Bio-hazard bag.

8.) Remove the gloves and discard. Wash and dry hands.

### \*Keep patient samples at room temperature. Do Not Freeze patient sample.

### \*Patient samples must be received at the laboratory within 72 hours of collection.

### SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Confirm that the information on the completed Infectious Diseases Test Requisition Form matches the Swab Container (Confirm that either stool or swab sample was collected).

- 2. Place the Swab container into the Bio-hazard Bag along with the Test Request Form
- 3. The specimen is now ready for shipment via FedEx or courier.

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