Faeces Culture

Alfred Pathology Service

Patient Instructions

This test requires you to distribute three small samples from one bowel movement into the containers provided.

Equipment provided for this test
- Faecal Collection Kit (three containers and wooden sticks)
- Instruction sheet

Prior to commencing this test
- Apply ID labels if provided or write your full name (first, middle & surname), date of birth on the container.
- Do not spill the preservative- the preservative contains a small amount of formalin.
  If you come into contact with the preservatives, wash off immediately with cold running water. Seek medical advice if you are concerned.

Collection Instructions
1. Pass faeces directly into a container, such as cleaned (washed and dried) ice-cream container. Do not let any urine contaminate the faeces sample.
2. Using a wooden stick, place a walnut sized sample into one of the containers
3. Throw out the wooden stick.
4. Close the container by screwing the lid on tightly ensuring it is straight. Place the container in the specimen bag provided.
5. Repeat steps 2 - 4 for the other two containers. It is important to use a new stick for each specimen.
6. Slide the request form into the back pocket of the specimen bag and wash your hands.
7. Deliver the samples to collection center as soon as possible. If you are unable to deliver within two hours of collection refrigerate until delivery.

Specimens will not be accepted if not collected in appropriate (pathology provided) container.

If there is a problem during the collection, a replacement container / kit can be provided.