

Checklist: Collecting a Stool Specimen

Collecting a Stool Specimen	Able to Perform	Unable to Perform
1. Carry out initial procedure actions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Assemble equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Disposable gloves – Bedpan and cover or collection container – Specimen container and cover – Biohazard specimen transport bag – Label, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Patient’s full name – Room number – Date and time of collection – Physician’s name – Examination to be performed – Other information required – Toilet tissue – Tongue depressors – Basin –Barrier 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Wash your hands and put on disposable gloves. Place a barrier on the surface, set supplies on top	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Uncover the specimen container and use tongue depressors or collection scoop to obtain a specimen. Avoid contaminating the specimen with urine or toilet water. Do not contaminate the outside of the specimen container or cover. If possible, obtain a sample from different areas of the stool specimen and transfer it into the specimen container.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Assist the patient with handwashing, if needed. If the patient is incontinent, carefully clean and dry the area around the anus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Empty the collection container into the toilet. Clean or discard the container according to facility policy. If the patient was incontinent, dispose of the soiled brief or padding as biohazardous waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Remove and dispose of your gloves according to facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Wash your hands.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Cover the specimen container securely and attach the completed label before leaving the bedside. Place the container in a biohazard transport bag.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Take or send the specimen to the laboratory promptly and store according to facility policy and laboratory instructions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Carry out ending procedure actions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>