

## Patient Instruction for Collection of Stool for C. difficile

The following instructions are intended to help you collect the correct specimen for the test your doctor has requested.

First read the instructions carefully, make sure you are prepared, and then follow each of the steps to ensure proper collection

### Collection procedure:

- Open the biohazard bag and remove the sterile container.
- Collect specimen directly into container, or transfer from bedpan or plastic wrap stretched over toilet bowl using wooden stick or plastic pipette as follows:
  - Pass urine into the toilet
  - Lift the toilet seat. Place sheets of plastic wrap over the toilet bowl, leaving a small dip in the centre. Place the toilet seat down.
  - Pass stool onto the plastic wrap
  - Collect the specimen from the plastic using the popsicle stick or plastic pipette.
- Specimen should be 10-15 mL of diarrheal stool. **Dry or formed stool is unacceptable and specimen will be rejected.**
- Write your name, date of birth and date and time of collection on the container. Failure to provide this information may result in rejection or testing delay.
- Place the specimen in the biohazard bag and seal the bag.
- Transport collected specimen to the laboratory within 24 hours. If unable to transport the same day, store under refrigeration until it can be transported.