

Collecting a stool sample into a gel tube for bacterial culture

In order for the test to be reliable, it is important that you follow the collection instructions. Collect the sample at such a time that you can deliver the sample to the laboratory preferably the same day or, at the latest, within 24 hours. The sample tube is preserved in the refrigerator inside a sealed bag.

Collection equipment

For the collection of the sample, the health centre, hospital, or laboratory staff will give you a container (such as a disposable plate), the required number of gel transportation tubes and sampling swabs, a sealable plastic bag, and stickers for recording your name and details. Depending on the test required, you may be given other containers for the stool sample. The staff will give you further instructions.

Collecting the stool sample

1. Collect some stool (faeces) in the container, such as a disposable plate or on toilet paper. Remove the white cap from the sample tube.



2. Roll the sampling swab in the stool, preferably in the areas with as much blood or mucus as possible. Do not break or cut the swab. Press the swab with the sample to the bottom of the transportation tube under the gel so that the coloured cap closes tightly.





3. You should collect a stool sample in all the tubes given by the laboratory. For sample identification, it is important that you record your name and identity code and sampling date on stickers and attach a sticker on each sample tube.
4. Put the sample tube(s) in the plastic bag and seal the bag carefully. Store the samples in the refrigerator before delivering them to the laboratory.

**If you have any questions, please call the customer service: +358 9 471 86800
Mon–Fri, from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. Please note that test results are not given over
the telephone.**

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