

Gastric Lavage Kit

Instructions for the use of the Gastric Lavage Kit for the collection and transportation of clinical specimens for culture for mycobacteria including *M. tuberculosis*.

The Gastric Lavage kit consists of: one sterile container with 0.75 ml of 38% Disodium carbonate (acid neutralizer) plus dye, one biohazard bag and a Public Health Laboratory (PHL) requisition.

1. Open the pouched seal pack and aseptically remove the container from the package. Do not use expired kits.
2. Collect fasting early-morning specimen on 3 consecutive days. Collect in the morning soon after patient awakens in order to obtain sputum swallowed during sleep. Specimen volume should be 20-50ml. Swirl the specimen in the container in order to neutralize the acidity.
3. Replace cap on container closing tightly.
4. Label specimen container with patient's full name and a second unique identifier (e.g. accession number, date of birth, Health Card number). Note: Specimens received without the patient's full name and a second identifier will not be processed by the laboratory.
5. Place specimen in a biohazard bag and seal bag.
6. Complete the requisition sheet including the patients full name, date of birth, address including city and postal code, Health Card number, physician's name, address and phone number, PHL test code T04 or test requested, source of specimen, collection date, and clinical diagnosis/symptoms/onset date. Insert data sheet in the pocket on the outside of the biohazard bag or in a separate envelope. Do not place the requisition inside the bag with the specimen.
7. Submit each specimen in a separate biobag with a separate requisition form.

STORAGE and TRANSPORT - The collection container can be stored at room temperature before use. The expiry date is on the collection container. Transport collected specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible after collection. If transport is delayed more than one hour the specimen must be refrigerated

TO ORDER KITS or INFORMATION: Contact OAHPP order desk, Public Health Laboratory Toronto @ 416 235-5937 or order by fax @ 416 235-5753 or your local Public Health Laboratory.