

Clostridium difficile Kit

Instructions for the use of the CD kit for the collection and transportation of clinical specimens for *Clostridium difficile*.

The CD kit consists of: one 90 mL sterile container, one wooden stick, one biohazard bag, and a public health laboratory General Test Requisition.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. Open the biohazard bag and remove the sterile container.
2. Collect specimen directly into container, or transfer from bedpan or plastic wrap stretched over toilet bowl using wooden stick. Specimen should be 3 - 5 mL of diarrhoeal stool. Dry or formed stool is unacceptable. Multiple specimens should be collected at least one day apart.
3. Recap the specimen container tightly.
4. Label specimen container with patient's full name and a second unique identifier (e.g. accession number, date of birth, Health No.).
Note: Specimens received not including the patient's full name and a second identifier will not be processed by the laboratory.
5. Place the specimen in the biohazard bag and seal the bag.
6. Complete the enclosed test requisition including the patient's full name, date of birth, Health No., PHL test code B03 or test requested, specimen type and site, date collected, and clinical diagnosis/symptoms/onset date. The clinician name, telephone number and complete return address of the health card submitter must also be provided.
7. Insert the completed test requisition in the pocket on the outside of the biohazard bag. Do not place the test requisition inside the bag with the specimen.

STORAGE and TRANSPORT - Transport collected specimen to the Laboratory as soon as possible. If unable to transport same day, store under refrigeration until it can be transported. Specimens should be transported within 3 days; otherwise, specimen must be frozen and shipped on ice.

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.