

	MODALITA' DI RACCOLTA DELLE FECI PER ESAME COLTURALE E COPROPARASSITOLOGICO HOW TO COLLECT MATERIAL FOR STOOL TESTS AND STOOL OVA AND PARASITES TESTS	Allegato n.014 al PT LAB 001 Rev. 00 Pag. 1 di 1 16.04.2026
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The term **stool test** means the search for the bacteria responsible for enteritis in stool (faeces).

The standard test searches for Salmonella spp, Campylobacter spp and Shigella spp. Other checks can be made following a specific request after an accurate medical history and include Yersinia enterocolitica, Escherichia Coli 0157, Criptosporidium parvum.

The test is carried out on 1 stool sample, taken when the symptoms begin, in the following manners:

- collect the stool sample after having just defecated, being careful not to contaminate the faeces with urine and water from the toilet bowl
- collect 5-10 ml of material, including blood and/or mucous if present
- transfer the sample to a sterile container labelled with your name, surname, date of birth and the sample collection date
- fill the container to 1/3 of its volume with the diarrhoeal stool; if the stool is semifluid, take a sample the size of a walnut (solid faeces are not suitable)
- take the sample to the Specimen Centre when it is open to the public. If the sample cannot be delivered during the relative opening hours, it can be kept in the refrigerator for 12 hours at most (from the previous evening). Consider, however, that a fresh sample is better.

A **stool ova and parasites test** is a search for parasites (protozoa, eggs and worm larva) in the faeces.

The test is carried out on 3 stool samples, extracted when the symptoms begin, in the following manners:

- collect the stool sample after having just defecated, being careful not to contaminate the faeces with urine or water from the toilet bowl
- you must take a sample the size of a walnut; if the stool is diarrhoeal, collect 5-10 ml of material; also collect any mucous or blood that is present
- transfer the material to a sterile container labelled with your name, surname, date of birth and the sample collection date
- take the sample to the Specimen Centre when it is open to the public. If the sample cannot be delivered during the relative opening hours, it can be kept in the refrigerator for 12 hours at most (from the previous evening). Consider, however, that a fresh sample is better.

The transparent tape test is the most suitable for searching for **Enterobius vermicularis** (oxyuris). The test kit is available from the Testing room of the Esine and Edolo Clinical Analysis Laboratory.

N.B. do not take laxatives or vegetable carbon in the days before you collect the stool sample. Finally, avoid doing the stool ova and parasite test soon after undergoing contrast tests involving the intestine.

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