

GASTROINTESTINAL PATHOGEN PANEL

Collection Instructions

Materials Required

- 1 Sterile swab
- 1 Sterile virus transport media (collection tube)
- 1 Biohazard bag
- 2 Barcode labels
- 1 Parafilm sealing sheet
- 1 Absorbent sheet
- **Return supplies:**
 - UN3373 Biological substance, Category "B" stamped FedEx Clinical pak
 - Corrugated return box
 - FedEx Return label

Collection Procedures

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Do not use a fecal sample from a bedpan as it will result in an inaccurate result.

1. Remove sterile swab from collection kit.
2. Insert the tip of the swab at least 1 inch beyond the sphincter and rotate the swab 5-10 times in an anal pocket/groove.
 - Visually ensure swab is saturated with fecal material.
3. Place swab in collection tube, swirl the swab in the solution 5 times, break at indentation mark and recap (with the swab in the tube).
4. Immediately place the swab in the collection tube, taking care not to spill the transport media, break the swab at the indentation mark, and secure cap on the tube.
5. Place a label on the tube and keep it in the upright position for 10 – 15 minutes before sending for testing.

Safety Information:

- Always wear appropriate protective equipment when handling any clinical specimen. These include lab coats, disposable gloves, and a face mask.
- Do not touch your face when handling specimens. Periodically change gloves and disinfect surfaces with 10% bleach and 70% ethanol.
- Always wash hands thoroughly with soap after handling specimens.