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PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTION OF STOOL SAMPLES

Purpose: To provide collection information to physicians and patients.

Procedure: A copy of the following patient instructions is put into each bag containing stool cups that is to be given to the patient from the receptionist desk.

General Stool Collection Instructions:

1. Keep specimen cool; do not incubate them.
2. Do not use toilet paper to collect stool specimens.
3. Pass stool directly into a wide mouth leak proof container with a tight fitting lid. Avoid contamination with urine.
4. For occult blood specimens; Do not collect specimen during or until three days after a menstrual period, or while you have blood in urine or bleeding from hemorrhoids or dental work.
5. Collect the required number of specimens (as per instructed by your physician).
6. For OCP collection, wait 7-10 days after ingestion of anti-parasitic compounds, barium, iron, Kaopectate, metronidazole, Milk of Magnesium, Pepto-Bismol, antacids, bismuth, antidiarrheal medication, oily laxatives, or tetracycline. Return specimen to lab within 1 hour of collection. If you are unable to return to the laboratory within 1 hour, please refrigerate and return to the lab the next day.
7. For occult blood specimens, please return to the lab within 48 hours of collection. Please store specimen in a cool location.
8. **Upon returning the specimen to the lab, you MUST be able to provide the following information and you MUST sign in:**
 - a. **Name and Date of birth of the patient**
 - b. **Insurance information**
 - c. **Doctors order (if applicable)**

Immunochemical Occult Blood Testing Benefits (Path Lab Method)

- No dietary or medicinal restrictions
- More sensitive
- Specific to human blood

References: Diagnostic Microbiology 4th edition, J.B. Lippincott 1992 pp 74, Hema-Screen SPECIFIC iFOTB procedure collection instructions