



## COLLECTION PROCEDURE

### pH STOOL

Dear Patient:

You have been asked by your physician to collect a stool specimen. Please read and follow the instructions provided below.

- ☐ It is important to indicate date and time of stool passage and write this on the lines provided on the container.
- ☐ Stool specimens should be passed into a clean, dry container or onto a clean paper and then transferred to the container you have been provided with.
- ☐ Liquid stools need to be collected into a clean, dry bowl or basin and then transferred to the container.
- ☐ All fresh stool specimens should be brought to the lab immediately if possible.  
**Please return no later than 24 hours after collection. This does not require refrigeration.**
- ☐ Certain drugs and compounds will render stool specimens unsatisfactory for examination. Among these are anti-diarrheal compounds, antibiotics, antacids, bismuth and barium. Stool specimens should be collected before these compounds are used or otherwise delayed until the effects have passed.

- **Antibiotics:** Wait 2 to 3 weeks after completion
- **Barium or Bismuth:** Wait 7 to 10 days after completion
- **Gallbladder Dyes:** Wait 3 weeks after completion

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- **STOOL SPECIMENS TRANSFERRED FROM THE TOILET BOWL TO THE CONTAINER ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
- **STOOL SPECIMENS MIXED WITH URINE ARE ALSO NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

If you have any questions, please call Client Services, Interpath Lab at 800 700-6891.