

## PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR STOOL CULTURE AND SHIGA TOXIN COLLECTION

Dear Patient:

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

One (1) fecal swab kit has been provided for collection.

1. *Stool specimens can be passed into a clean, dry container or onto a clean paper.*
2. *Collect a small amount of sample by rotating swab tip to cover it with stool. Avoid touching the swab applicator below the pink molded breakpoint.*
3. *Remove cap from the tube and insert the swab to the bottom of the tube.*
4. *Mash and mix stool specimen against the side of the tube to disperse.*
5. *Holding the tube away from face, grasp the end of swab shaft and bend at a 180 degree angle to break at the pink breakpoint. If needed, gently rotate the swab shaft to complete the breakage.*
6. *Screw the cap on tightly to prevent leakage.*
7. *Label tube with patient information including Last name, First name, and Date of Birth.*
8. *It is important to indicate date and time of stool passage and write this on Fecal Swab collection kit.*
9. *Return specimen to lab within 48 hours of collection.*

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **STOOL SPECIMENS TRANSFERRED FROM THE TOILET BOWL TO THE CONTAINER ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
- **STOOL SPECIMENS MIXED WITH URINE, RESIDUAL SOAP, OR DISINFECTANTS ARE ALSO NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

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