

**Patient Instructions Stool Collection Using Plastic Stool Cup for
Stool Culture or Clostridium Difficile (C Diff)**

Labeling of the specimen, to include name, d.o.b., collection date, time started, and time ended, is required to ensure prompt testing and to eliminate rejection by the laboratory.

Specimen Collection:

- Wash your hands.
 - Take the lid off the plastic lab container.
 - Collect the stool in a bedpan or a clean margarine container.
 - Do not contaminate the specimen with any urine. Urine may kill off the bacteria in the stool.
 - When the specimen is obtained for a **Clostridium Difficile (C.Diff)** pour it into the plastic collection container and tightly replace the lid.
 - When specimen is being obtained for a **Stool Culture** use an Orange-Capped Transport Vial following direction on the container itself.
- Do not scoop the specimen from the toilet.**
- Using an ink pen or marker, print your first and last names, date of birth and the date and time the urine was collected (example: Nov 11, 2003 at 8:00 am) on the label.
 - Place sample cup and/or vial in the zip lock specimen bag.
 - Wash your hands again to avoid the spread of an infection.
 - The Orange Capped Culture Vial is kept at **room temperature** and is **stable for 48 hours**.
 - The **Clostridium Difficile (C.Diff)** specimen is kept **refrigerated** and should be **brought to the lab within 24 hours**.

Note: If stool for Ova & Parasites (O&P) are also being collected, the culture specimen should be collected with the last O&P sample. All vials can then be returned at the same time.