

# Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

## *Clostridium botulinum* toxin (Version 1)

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Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)**	
Serum	At illness	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain serum in red top or serum separator tubes (no anticoagulant).</li> <li>Minimum volume: ~10ml.</li> </ul>	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transport device:</b> See Collection Procedures.</li> <li><b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2° - 8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li><b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2° - 8°C.</li> </ul>	
From infant patient			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For stool, collect 10-50g (ping-pong ball sized).</li> <li>For enema, collect with 10-20ml non-bacteriostatic water into a sterile unbreakable container.</li> </ul>	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transport device:</b> Sterile leak-proof container.</li> <li><b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2° - 8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li><b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2° - 8°C.</li> </ul>	
Tissue, Exudate, or Wound Swab			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place specimen into sterile unbreakable container.</li> <li>Specimens should be placed in anaerobic transport media.</li> </ul>	Anaerobic transport media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transport device:</b> See Collection Procedures.</li> <li><b>Transport:</b> Ship at room temperature.</li> <li><b>Storage:</b> Store at room temperature.</li> </ul>	
Gastro-intestinal (environmental)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For stool, collect 10-50g (ping-pong ball sized).</li> <li>For enema, collect with 10-20ml non-bacteriostatic water into a sterile unbreakable container.</li> </ul>	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foods should be left in their original containers if possible.</li> <li>If transferring, place food into a sterile unbreakable, puncture resistant container. Label carefully.</li> <li>Place containers individually in leak-proof containers (e.g., sealed plastic bags) to prevent cross-contamination during shipment.</li> <li>Empty containers with remnants of suspected foods can be examined.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transport device:</b> Sterile leak-proof container.</li> <li><b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2° - 8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li><b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2° - 8°C.</li> </ul>
Food (environmental)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foods should be left in their original containers if possible.</li> <li>If transferring, place food into a sterile unbreakable, puncture resistant container. Label carefully.</li> <li>Place containers individually in leak-proof containers (e.g., sealed plastic bags) to prevent cross-contamination during shipment.</li> <li>Empty containers with remnants of suspected foods can be examined.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transport device:</b> See Collection Procedures.</li> <li><b>Transport:</b> Ship cold (2° - 8°C) on ice packs.</li> <li><b>Storage:</b> Refrigerate at 2° - 8°C. Do not freeze.</li> </ul>	

**General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)**

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Not shipped at indicated temperature.
- Insufficient specimen volume.
- Leaky specimen.
- Did not obtain LHJ or DOH CDE approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

**NOTE:**

Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient's county of residence, and second identifier.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.

**Collection kit availability**

Not available.

**Comments**