### Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

**R/O Shiga Toxigenic E. coli (STEC) (Version 1)**

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| Stool         | Collect as determined by CDE or LHJ | Collect 2 consecutive stools 24 hrs apart and 48 hrs after completion of antibiotics (if given). | Collect stool or swab of stool into commercial swab transport device or enteric transport medium. (such as Cary-Blair Transport Medium). | Commercial swab transport device or enteric transport medium (such as Cary-Blair Transport Medium) | • **Transport device:** Sterile leak-proof container.  
• **Rejection Criteria:**  
  o Fresh stool not in enteric transport medium.  
  o Specimens not received within 72 hours.  
  o Enteric transport tube that is filled above the maximum specimen line.  
  o Transport devices that are expired or for which the indicator has changed colors.  
  o Specimens submitted in a parasitology transport media.  
  o Duplicate specimens (specimens from the same patient and same source submitted on same collection day).  
  o Leaking specimens.  
  o Please see General Rejection Criteria on page 2.  
• **Transport:** Room temperature within 24 hours of collection. If refrigerated, ship on cold packs.  
  Ship as Category B.  
• **Storage:** If transport is delayed > 24 hours, keep refrigerated at 4°C, and ship on cold packs. |

*Preferred specimen type, if applicable  
**All specimens must be shipped meeting IATA, OSHA, and USPS requirements.  
NA: Not Applicable  
Last Revised: March 2015
General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Leaky specimen.
- 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.
- Reason for testing at WAPHL.

Collection kit availability

- Stool: Available.
- Rectal swab: Not available.

Comments

- Food handlers, child care attendants, child care attendees, and healthcare workers require two negative stool specimens before returning to work or child care.
- Rectal swabs: Rectal swabs are less sensitive than stool specimens and are not recommended in adults. Please contact CDE for exceptions and special arrangements.