

## CLINICAL LABORATORY

Updated: 05/15/03

### **STOOL CULTURE or OVA & PARASITE**

**Purpose:** Patient instruction sheet for the collection of a stool specimen for culture or ova & parasites.

Your physician has ordered an ova & parasite and/or stool culture test, which is performed on a stool specimen(s). A special collection container may be obtained from the Clinical Laboratory or a clean plastic container with a tight fitting lid may be used.

#### **SPECIMEN COLLECTION:**

To collect specimen place a large plastic bag (such as a plastic grocery bag) or plastic wrapping film over the toilet seat opening. The stool specimen can be passed on to the plastic. (Another option is to use a thoroughly cleaned and dry milk carton: cut so as to remove the upper two-thirds of the carton). After specimen is collected, place it in the collection container. Be sure to label sample with patient name and collection date and time of specimen.

If testing is being performed on an infant, **DO NOT** bring in the diaper. Please remove stool immediately from the diaper and place in the container.

#### **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

After the specimen is collected it needs to arrive in Express Testing within **ONE HOUR** of collection. The Hospital is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to receive incoming specimens.

If you should have any questions please call 268-6134.