PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS
FOR OUTPATIENT STOOL COLLECTION
(PROTO-FIX and ORANGE PARAPAK)

Your physician has ordered testing on fecal (stool) specimens. You have been given collection containers that contain preservatives.

Avoid contact of the liquid solutions with skin or eyes. Should contact occur, flush the affected area with running water. If irritation should develop, contact your physician immediately. If ingested, drink milk or water and call your physician or the local poison control center immediately.

Follow your physician’s instructions regarding whether to obtain specimens on consecutive days, or whether multiple samples in one day may be obtained.

Antacids, barium, bismuth, antidiarrheal medication, or oily laxatives should be avoided prior to collection of the specimen.

Collection instructions:

1. Label each container with patient name and date of collection.
2. Collect the fecal sample in the hat or specimen cup provided by the laboratory. Avoid contamination with urine.
3. When opening container to add stool **DO NOT REMOVE LIQUID**.
4. An appropriate (bloody, slimy, watery) area of stool should be selected and sampled with the collection spoon provided in the cap of the closed container. Sufficient stool should be added to each container to bring the liquid levels up to the “fill to here” line.
5. Place the cap and attached spoon on each collection container and agitate the specimen along the sides of the container with the spoon. Tighten the caps and shake each container firmly to insure that the specimen is adequately mixed.
6. Place the containers into the plastic biohazard bag, place your physician orders into the side pocket of the bag, and return to Avera McKennan Laboratory for testing.