

# MECONIUM TESTING

## COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS



### Preparation for Meconium Collection

1. Place a **plastic liner** (found in kit) into a diaper, orienting it in such a way that, when meconium is passed, it collects in the liner and not the absorbent diaper material. If the meconium collects and dries out on the diaper, it is not an acceptable specimen for testing.
2. Label the meconium collection container with the infant's name and unique identifying information.

### Transferring Meconium into Collection Container

1. Open the **labeled** meconium collection container. The collection spoon/spatula is attached to the lid. Use the spoon to collect the meconium.



Collection Container

Collection spoon attached to lid



2. Remove plastic liner from diaper. Collect all meconium that passed onto the plastic liner into the bowl of the collection spoon.



3. Store the collection container in a refrigerator or at room temperature in between collections.



4. If there is insufficient meconium (fewer than five grams) obtained from the first collection, prepare another diaper by lining it with a new plastic liner and repeat steps 2 and 3 as many times as needed.

5. **Multiple** meconium stools should be collected using the same collection device. **Note:** To prevent meconium from drying out, keep all specimens together on the spoon.

1st collection already on spoon.

2nd collection being obtained.



6. Continue collections until **five grams** of meconium is obtained on spoon or until the first milk stool appears.



Optimal amount—**Five grams** of meconium on spoon; front & side views.

7. A minimum of **two grams** of moist meconium is required for testing. **Note:** Do not smear meconium on the walls of collection container, as this causes it to dry out and make it unsatisfactory for testing.

Minimum amount: **Two grams** of moist meconium on spoon.



8. Store the collection container in a refrigerator or at room temperature. Transport the labeled meconium collection at **room temperature**.



# Preparing Meconium Collection Kit for Transport

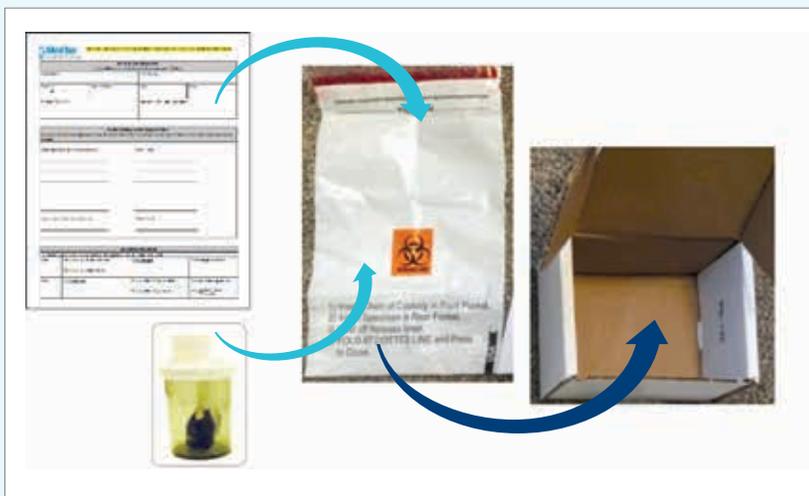
**1** Complete Optional Specimen Tracking Form if required by hospital protocol.

- A. Patient Information**  
Fill out patient information or affix a specimen ID label.
- B. Collector Information**  
Collector(s) should sign this section including the person who seals the container.
- C. Specimen Tracking**  
Initiated by the person sealing the specimen box for shipment to the lab.

**3** Adhere specimen integrity seal to the outside of the box as shown below.



**2** Place sealed specimen container inside the biohazard bag and seal the biohazard bag. Place optional tracking form into pouch on exterior of biohazard bag. Put the sealed biohazard bag inside the box.



**4** Place a specimen ID sticker on the top of the specimen integrity seal where it says "CLIENT: PLACE SPECIMEN ID HERE".



**5** Place the sealed box and the test request form/manifest in the large Lab-Loc biohazard bag



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For questions about meconium collection, contact client services at **877-474-5767**.