Baylor College of Medicine

ALKEK CENTER FOR METAGENOMICS AND MICROBIOME RESEARCH

Specimen Collection – Stool from Diapers

Sampling Procedure

This protocol allows for the collection of stool specimens from used diapers.

Line the inside of the diaper with plastic wrap to keep the stool sample from being absorbed into the diaper. If not possible, avoid scraping the diaper while collecting the stool specimen as described below.

Collect a fraction (about ¼ teaspoon) of feces using a sterile spatula or scoop from a concentrated portion of feces and transfer it to a collection container or cryovial. Do not add solvents or preservatives.

Properly label the sample and store it at -20°C for <2 weeks or at -80°C for >2 weeks.

Considerations

Do not collect a sample from a diaper that has fallen to the ground or in contact with extraneous environments.

Do not collect a sample from a diaper that has stool mixed with urine.

Freeze the collected specimen as soon as possible.

Follow shipping guidelines.

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