

Please read all of the instructions before collection. The healthcare provider has requested this collection as part of the patient's care. Proper collection of the specimen is essential for accurate test results.

Pinworm Testing:

- A pinworm paddle is used to collect pinworm eggs from the anal folds. The plastic paddle has one side coated with a non-toxic mildly adhesive material. It comes in a plastic vial with a pop-off lid.
- The adult female pinworm migrates to the anus/rectum and lays eggs in the rectal area when the patient has been still for a period of time.
- The eggs greatly outnumber the worms, but they cannot be seen with the naked eye.
- Stool or feces testing is not appropriate for the diagnosis of pinworms.

Preparation:

- For the best recovery of eggs, plan to collect under these conditions:
 - Do not have ointment or powder in the collection area the night before
 - Patient has been asleep for an hour or more
 - Preferred collection time is immediately upon patient waking in the morning
 - Collect before patient showers or bathes
 - Collect before patient has a bowel movement
 - Collect before the rectal area is wiped or cleaned
 - Collect before the application of any ointment or powder to the rectal area
 - Do not allow any stool or feces to contaminate the paddle
- The vial should be labeled with the patient's legal name and date of birth or with a laboratory label.

Collection:

1. Carefully pop-off the lid on the plastic vial and note the attached paddle with one side labeled "sticky side".
2. Be careful not to let the paddle come into contact with fingers or anything other than the collection area.
3. While the patient is on their stomach or side, spread the buttocks apart with one hand. Or have the patient stand and bend over at the waist.
4. Using gentle pressure, press the sticky side of the paddle against the skin around the rectum/anus 3 or 4 times.
5. Return the paddle to the protective tube and secure the lid closed.
6. Make sure the vial is labeled with the patient's legal name and date of birth or with a laboratory label.
7. Note the collection date and time on the vial.
8. Place the vial in a plastic bag and keep at room temperature.
9. The collector should make sure to wash their hands thoroughly. Pinworm eggs are very infectious.
10. Deliver the sample to the laboratory as soon as possible on the day of collection. Make sure to bring the order slip with the specimen if the laboratory does not already have a copy. Also, the laboratory will need insurance information and photo identification to register the patient before testing can be done.