



PROCEDURE:	OVA & PARASITES
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Medical supplies

- Special tube containing a specific preservative solution
- Biohazard bag
- Stability¹ :
 - Store at room temperature 18 – 25 °C for a very long period. Some specimens at LSPQ (Laboratoire de Santé Publique du Québec) are stored for several years

Preparation

- 1) It is recommended to collect 3 separate samples for this analysis;
- 2) Do not take any laxatives or antibiotics for a period of one week prior to the stool collection, except if it has been recommended by your doctor. Do not perform rectal enemas one week prior to collecting the sample.

Collection

- 1) Collect the specimens over a period of 7 to 10 days on non-consecutive days;
- 2) The stool must be on a dry and clean surface such as a bedpan, plastic bag, plastic surface (e.g., Saran wrap) or newspaper, depending on what is most convenient for you. The sample should not contain urine;
- 3) Open the specific container;
- 4) Collect small portions on each side and in the middle of the stool by using the spatula provided in the kit;
- 5) Add these portions in the container until you reach the indicated line (highlighted in yellow) (Figure 8);
 - The total amount must be equal to the line indicated on the tube. Any sample with a total quantity over or under the indicated line will not be processed;
 - Take samples from areas of the stool which contains mucus or blood.



Figure 8 : Ova & Parasite containers

- 6) Close the container tightly;
- 7) Identify the container:
 - First and last name;
 - Date of birth and/or Medicare number;
 - Date and time of collection.
- 8) Place the container in the biohazard bag;
- 9) Return the container to your physician or to the laboratory.

¹ Transport et conservation de spécimens dans le domaine de la biologie médicale, OPTMQ, third edition, 2003, p.43.