



PROCEDURE:	OCCULT BLOOD (GUAIAAC METHOD)
-------------------	--------------------------------------

Medical supplies

- Occult Blood kit;
- Biohazard bag;
- Stability :
 - Once the samples have been collected and placed on the special Occult Blood card, they should be stored at room temperature and protected from light. Samples are stable for 21 days once prepared on the collection card.
 - If you decide to collect the samples, in order to bring them to your clinic for preparation, keep samples refrigerated 2 – 8 °C for a maximum of 72 hours before placing on the collection card.

Preparation

- 1) For accurate results, you must follow this diet guideline. You must follow the diet at least 48 hours before taking the first sample of stool and continue following the diet until all specimens are collected while avoiding the following:
 - Aspirin (7 days)
 - Broccoli
 - Cauliflower
 - Cooked tomatoes
 - Corticosteroids
 - Horseradish
 - Iron supplements (7 days)
 - Melons
 - Multi-vitamins (7 days)
 - Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory (7 days)
 - Radishes
 - Red meat
 - Turnips
 - Vitamin C (7 days)
- 2) Eat the following suggested food :
 - Generous amounts of vegetables, cooked and raw, especially lettuce and spinach;
 - Moderate amounts of high fiber foods such as whole wheat bread, bran cereal, etc.;
 - Plenty of fruits such as prunes, plums, grapes and apples;
 - Poultry (well done);
 - Tuna.
- 3) A total of three separate stool specimens should be collected from consecutive bowel movements;
- 4) Do not collect specimens during a menstrual period or if you suffer from bleeding hemorrhoids;
- 5) You may resume your normal diet after the specimens are collected.

Consult your health care provider regarding the need to discontinue drugs that can affect the test and for all questions about the previous list.

Note: If one of the recommended foods above previously caused you gastro-intestinal disorders, you should inform your doctor before following the diet.

Collection

The special collection kit includes: a metallic envelope, a three section collection cardboard and three wooden spatulas.



- 1) 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;
- 2) Place collection cardboard as shown in Figure 6;

The image shows three identical collection cards for the hema-screen fecal occult blood test. Each card is white with a red header. The header contains the Immunostics, Inc. logo and the product name 'hema-screen' in large, bold, black letters. Below the product name, it says 'SLIDE TEST FOR FECAL OCCULT BLOOD WITH ON-SLIDE CONTROLS'. A horizontal line with arrows pointing outwards is labeled 'BEND HERE BEFORE SEPARATING'. Below this line, there are several fields for patient information: 'Patient's Name' and 'Age' on the first line, 'Street or Hospital No.' on the second line, 'City', 'State', and 'Zip' on the third line, and 'Phone No.' and 'Date' on the fourth line. Below these fields, there is a line of text: 'Open flap-read directions for use. Return to physician.' At the bottom of each card, it says 'FOR IN VITRO DIAGNOSTIC USE'.

Figure 6: Collection cardboard



- 3) Open the flap of one section of the cardboard as shown in Figure 7;

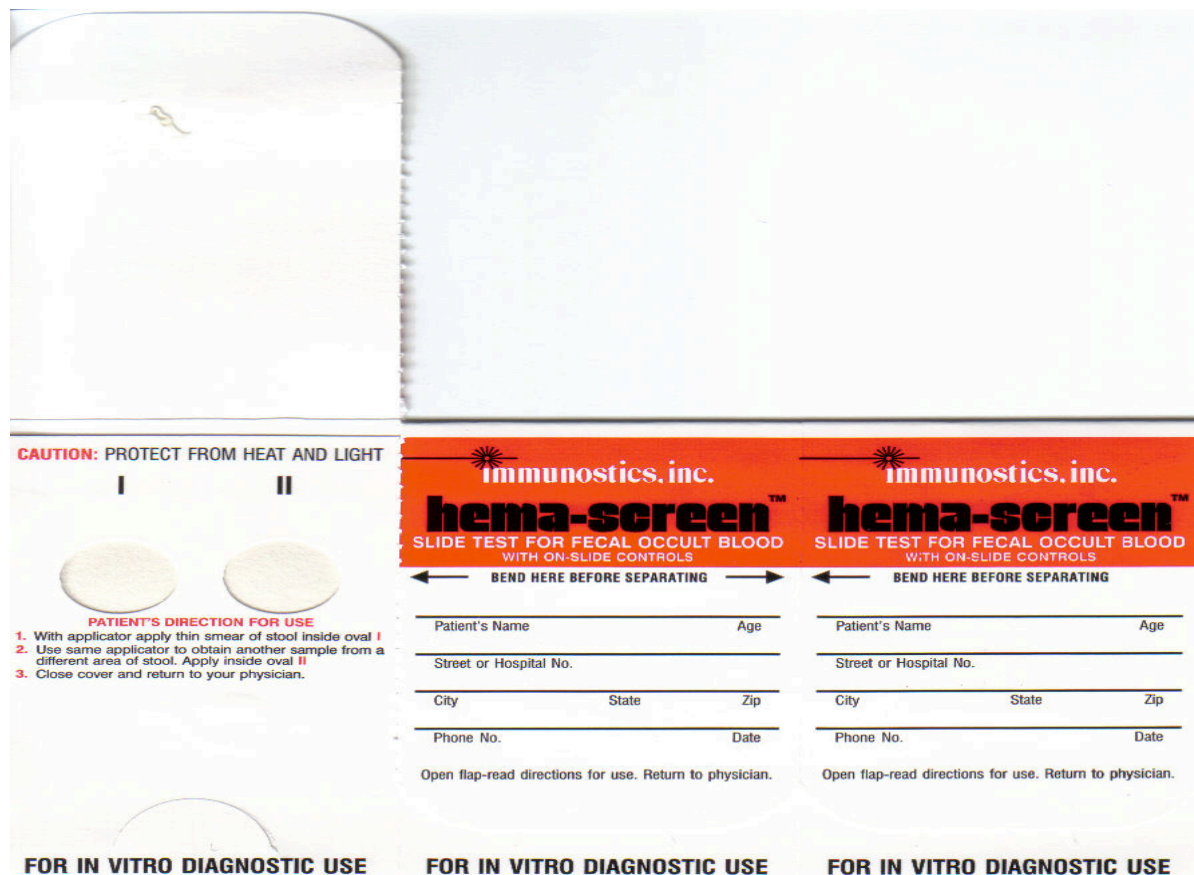


Figure 7: Section of collection cardboard

- 4) Using one of the provided wooden spatulas, collect a small portion of the stool;
- 5) Spread a very thin smear of stool on circle I;
- 6) Using the same applicator, collect another sample from a different area of stool and apply to circle II;
- 7) Close the flap of the section;
- 8) Keep sample collection cardboard in the envelope provided in dry dark place. Always keep at room temperature, protect from light and avoid heat;
- 9) Repeat procedure (steps 1 to 8.) with the next two following bowel movements using the remaining two sections of the cardboard;
- 10) On the front of each section of the cardboard, write:
 - First and last name;
 - Date of birth and/or Medicare number;
 - Date and time of collection.
- 11) At the end of the third collection, place the cardboard in the provided envelope and seal;
- 12) Ideally, the envelope containing your three samples should be returned to your physician

Note: If this is not possible, the specimen may also be returned to the laboratory provided that it is sent with the physician's requisition. **To prevent contamination of the requisition, it must not be placed in the Occult Blood envelope with the samples.** The Occult Blood envelope and the requisition should be placed together in a separate envelope and sent to the laboratory.