

 ZZJZ MEĐIMURSKE ŽUPANIJE DJELATNOST KLINIČKE MIKROBIOLOGIJE	UPUTA ZA UZIMANJE UZORAKA ZA PACIJENTE	Oznaka dokumenta: Obr. 5.4.4/2
		Strana/stranica 1/1
		Izdanje/revizija 1/1

Type of Sample: **STOOL (FECES) FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS**

A fresh stool sample is required for testing, preferably collected at the onset of symptoms and ideally before starting antibiotic therapy.

The stool should be collected in a sterile plastic container with a screw cap, which has an attached sampling spoon on the inside of the lid. The container is available from the laboratory or can be purchased at a pharmacy.

- The stool must be fresh (from the same day) and must not be contaminated with urine, water, toilet paper, disinfectants, or detergents.
- Defecate into a clean and dry bedpan or use a special stool collection pad placed in the toilet.
- Use the attached spoon on the lid to transfer a portion of the stool into the container. If there is any mucus, pus, or liquid stool, it should be included in the sample.
- For liquid stool: 2–3 ml is sufficient, for formed stool: 1–2 grams is enough. Do not overfill the container — no more than half full.
- Close the container tightly and place it in a plastic bag or wrap it in a paper towel.

Wash your hands thoroughly before and after collecting the sample.

The stool sample should be delivered to the laboratory within 2 hours of collection. If immediate delivery is not possible, the sample can be stored at +4 °C (in the refrigerator) for up to 24 hours. Samples older than 24 hours are not suitable for testing.