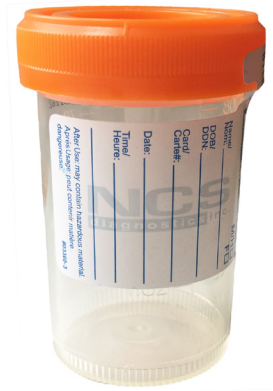


Stool analysis

Parasite screening using the NAAT method



Your doctor has ordered a stool test to screen for parasites. This sheet explains the test and the steps you need to follow to collect your stool.

Why do I need to have this test?

Your doctor thinks you may have a disease caused by a parasite. The most common signs are:

- diarrhea that lasts a long time
- stomach aches
- blood or mucus in the stool
- nausea or vomiting
- gas (flatulence)
- weight loss

The test results can help to identify the exact problem or to decide on a treatment. If you have already been diagnosed with a parasitic infection, the test can be used to see if the treatment is working.



What does parasite screening involve?

It involves collecting a small amount of your stool and testing it in a laboratory. This is done to see if your digestive tract contains parasites or their eggs.

The NAAT method can detect several different parasites. It's useful when we don't know which parasite is involved.

How do I get a container for the sample collection?

Go to the CHUM Test Centre with your doctor's requisition form and your health insurance card. You'll be given **1 sterile container and 1 spatula** to collect your stool.

**Pavilion D, 1st Floor, Room D0141
1000 Saint-Denis Street, Montreal H2X 0C1**

Business hours are 6:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
Monday to Friday, except holidays.

Are there any precautions to take BEFORE collecting the sample?

- Don't take any laxative, anti-diarrhea medication, or antacid for 24 hours before the sample collection.
- The stool must not touch your urine, the toilet bowl, or the toilet water.

What equipment will I need?



What is the procedure for collecting stool?

1 Write on the container label:

- your first name
- your family name
- your health insurance number
- the date and time of the stool collection

2 Put on gloves



3 Prepare the collection as follows:

Place 2 sheets of plastic wrap over the toilet bowl under the seat. Leave it just loose enough to form a kind of bowl. If you're using a bowl, pass your stool directly into it.



- 4 Use the spatula provided to collect the stool. If the stool is too watery, use a clean soup spoon. Put the collected stool in the container.
- 5 Close the lid, then place the container in the plastic bag.
- 6 Put the remaining stool in the toilet and toss the bowl or plastic wrap into the trash. Remove the gloves and wash your hands.



- 7 Put the closed bag in the fridge right away.



If these instructions are not carefully followed, the laboratory could refuse to take your sample. You would then have to redo the test.

Where should I take the sample?

Take it to the CHUM Test Centre **no later than 24 hours after collecting it**. Keep it cool during transport (e.g., in a cooler with an ice pack). Remember to bring your doctor's requisition and your health insurance card.

When will I have my results?

The CHUM laboratories need about 3 days to do the analysis. Your doctor will follow up with you afterwards.



Questions



Resource people and contacts



USEFUL RESOURCES

Other CHUM health fact sheets are available. Ask your care team which fact sheets can help you.



You can also read them online. chumontreal.qc.ca/fiches-sante

Responsible authority: Jérôme Ducournau, Department Head

Identifier: 06-PREL-DOC-396025, version 02

Effective date: 2025-12-22

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