

Faecal sample collection

NO BOOKING REQUIRED



If the faecal sample is not refrigerated or there is a delay in delivering it to PathWest, it can affect your results and you may be asked to repeat the test



Scan for locations

You will be given a sterile container for your sample. If the container is damaged or you have touched the inside, please ask for a new container.

1. Before collecting your sample, empty your bladder of all urine into the toilet.
2. Collect your faecal sample into the clean container. Alternatively, the faecal sample can be collected onto clean plastic wrap that is carefully placed over the toilet bowl.
3. Using scoop attached to the lid, collect a one scoop of the faecal sample and place it into the sterile container.
4. Make sure the lid is tightly closed on the faecal sample container to avoid any potential leakage.
5. Write your **full name, date of birth** and the **date and time** the sample was collected on the sample container.
6. Each sample needs to be delivered to a PathWest collection centre within **12 hours** of being collected.
7. If your doctor needs multiple faecal samples, these should be collected using different bowel movements.
8. If collecting faecal occult blood samples and using buffer tubes, follow the PathWest Faecal Occult sample instructions (online or on the back of this sheet).

Sample handling, storage and delivery

Prepare a clean container

Clean and dry a suitable plastic collection container, such as an ice cream or large yoghurt container.

If at a collection centre

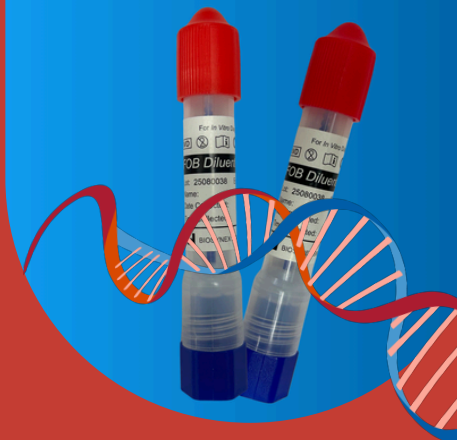
Place the container into the plastic bag provided and hand it to a staff member

Collecting a sample at home

Deliver it to a PathWest collection centre within **one hour**. If immediate delivery is not possible, store the sample in the fridge (not freezer) for up to 12 hours in an additional sealed bag.

Faecal Occult Blood sample collection

NO BOOKING REQUIRED



If the faecal sample is not refrigerated, there is a delay in delivering it to PathWest or the sample is not preserved using the buffer tube, this can affect your results and you may be asked to repeat the test.



Scan for locations

You will receive a sterile container for each sample you are required to collect. If the container is damaged or you have touched the inside, please ask for a new one. If there may be a delay in returning your samples to a PathWest collection centre, please ask for preservative buffer tubes.

1. Collect the faeces into a clean container (e.g. plastic ice-cream container) and place a sample in the sterile collection container as per step 3 on the faecal sample collection instructions (online or on the back of this sheet).
2. Write your **full name and date of birth** as well **date and time** the sample was collected on the sample container and the Hemotrust Diluent Buffer tube (pictured above).
3. Unscrew the blue cap at the top of the buffer tube to remove the applicator stick.
4. Push the applicator stick into the faeces sample in the sample container in three different places. The sample only needs to be tiny - smaller than a grain of rice.
5. Replace the applicator stick into the buffer tube and screw tightly shut, make sure the lid is closed tightly on the faecal sample container, to avoid any potential leakage.
6. Energetically shake the buffer tube to mix the solution.
7. Deliver the sample container and buffer tube/s to a PathWest laboratory or collection centre as soon as possible. Keep both the sample container and buffer tube in the fridge (not freezer) until they can be delivered
8. If your doctor requires multiple faecal samples, these should be collected using different bowel movements.

Sample handling, storage and delivery

If you are at a collection centre

Place the container into the plastic bag provided and hand it to a staff member

If collecting a sample at home

Deliver it to a PathWest collection centre within **one hour**. If immediate delivery is not possible or multiple samples have been requested, store the Hemotrust Buffer tube (ask your local PathWest about these) in the fridge (not freezer) for up to 72 hours in an additional sealed bag.

Disclaimer: This publication is for general education and informational purposes. Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.

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