



PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

Pinworm Examinations

You have been provided with a kit that enables you to collect a suitable sample to determine the presence of pinworms, *Enterobius vermicularis*. The kit contains a tube and a clear polystyrene paddle, one side of which is coated with a mildly adhesive material.

Because pinworm ova are usually deposited on the skin near the anus while a person is sleeping, specimens are best obtained a few hours after the person has retired, between the hours of 9 p.m. and midnight, or in the morning immediately upon rising before bathing or bowel movement. Your physician may request the test to be performed multiple times to rule out infection.

Procedure for collection of sample:

Follow these directions carefully to provide a suitable sample. Note: Do not use if paddle packaging is not intact.

- 1.** Collect the specimen upon waking, before using the toilet, bathing, or bowel movement. Late evening when the patient has been asleep for several hours is also acceptable. Do not wipe or wash the area before sampling.
- 2.** Hold the paddle by the cap and remove it from the tube. **DO NOT** touch the sticky side of the paddle with your fingers.
- 3.** Hold the paddle by the rounded end and press the sticky surface of the square end firmly against the skin around and across the anus.
- 4.** Replace the paddle securely in the tube for transport to the laboratory.

Wash your hands thoroughly immediately after collection.

Deliver the specimen and requisition (if you were given one by your physician) to the nearest Oregon Medical Group Laboratory as soon as possible. If transport is delayed, the specimen may be refrigerated for up to 24 hours.

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