

Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions Norovirus, RT-PCR (Version 1) Page 1 of 2

Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)**
Stool	At illness. For optimal detection, collect within 24-48 hours of symptom onset.	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect stool in a sterile plastic screw top container with no preservatives (such as a urine specimen container). • Seal the container with parafilm (if available) and individually bag each specimen. • Minimum volume: walnut-sized (or at least 2 grams of fresh stool). 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport device: Sterile screw top container. • Rejection Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leaky specimen. ○ Not enough volume. ○ Inappropriate method for collecting Norovirus specimens, i.e. sample size too small, stool placed in transport media. ○ Inappropriate container. Specimens that are not individually bagged will not be tested. ○ Inappropriate storage conditions. ○ Please see general rejection criteria on page 2. • Transport: Immediately refrigerate specimens at 2-8°C. Ship by overnight mail with ice packs. Ship as Category B. • Storage: Refrigerate at 2-8°C.

General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Did not obtain LHJ approval.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

NOTE:

Specimens will not be processed until ALL of the following information are provided on requisition form:

- Patient name, patient's county of residence, second identifier, and date of onset.
- Two matching identifiers on both the tube and the laboratory requisition form.
- Specimen type, date of collection, and test requested.
- Submitter name, address, and telephone/FAX numbers.

Collection kit availability

Not available.

Comments

- Testing requires approval by the state communicable disease epidemiology through your Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ).