Culture, Stool

**Method:**
Culture

**CPT Codes:**
87045, 87046 x 2

**Test Scope:**
Isolation and identification of *Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, Yersina and Shigatoxin producing E. coli* including *E. coli O157:H7* Susceptibilities performed at an additional charge when appropriate.

**Preferred Specimen:**
Stool (random, fresh) in fecal transport media

**Other Acceptable Specimens:**
Rectal Swab

**Required Specimen Volume:**
>5 mls stool, 5 g, or one swab

**Minimum Specimen Volume:**
5 mls stool, 2 g, or one swab

**Specimen Container:**
Stool Sample:
Cary Blair

Rectal Swab Sample:
Culture collection swab

**Specimen Identification:**
Label transport tube with patient’s first and last name, DOB and date/time of collection.

**Special Instructions:**
- Indicate specimen source on requisition slip.
- Stool specimen should be collected in sterile bedpan, not contaminated with urine, residual soap, or disinfectants.
- Those portions of stool which contain pus, blood, or mucous should be transferred to a sterile specimen container or transport media.

**Shipping Requirements:**
Store and ship at room temperature.
Transport to lab as soon as possible, preferably within 2 hours from collection.

**Sample Rejection Criteria:**
- Specimens >72 hrs old in preservative
- Specimen >2 hrs old unpreserved
- Frozen Sample
- Multiple specimens collected on the same day
- Overfilled or not mixed properly
- Sample submitted on diaper or tissue paper
- Mislabeled/Unlabeled specimens

**Turn-around-time:**
48-72 hours