

Appendix H

Guidance for taking faecal specimens

1. Ensure the patient's/your name and other clinical details are written on the pot prior to use
2. Ensure that the same details are filled in on the laboratory request form
3. Use a clean toilet bowl
4. Line the bottom of the bowl with toilet paper
5. Pass the motion / stool / faeces into the bowl
6. Use the small spoon attached to the cap of the container to scoop some of the bowel motion into the container, preferably without smearing the outside of the container
7. You only need a small amount - the size of a grape is enough
8. Screw the cap on tightly
9. Place the container in the plastic bag together with the laboratory request form
10. The toilet may now be flushed in the usual manner
11. Wash your hands thoroughly using warm water and soap
12. Ensure that the sample is sent off to the laboratory by whatever route was agreed with the person supplying the container