



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
TEST INFORMATION**

Section: Microbiology

Test Name: Escherichia coli O157:H7 Culture - Isolation

Test Includes: Conventional biochemicals, serotyping	
<i>Reporting</i>	
Results Available: 5-7 days	Contact Number: (650) 573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
Method: Conventional biochemicals, serotyping	
Turnaround Time: 5-7 days	Reference Range: No <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 isolated.
Limitations: Isolation of <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 is dependent on viable organisms. Stool specimens should be collected prior to antimicrobial therapy.	Interpretation: No <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 isolated means that no detectable (viable) organisms are in the specimen submitted.
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
Specimen Collection: Fresh stool	Sample Type: Stool; Rectal; swab
Volume/Amount Required: >10 ml liquid stool; > 20 g solid or semi-solid stool.	Preferred Specimen: Fresh stool <24 hours old; Rectal swab submitted in Cary-Blair, Stuart's or Amies transport.
Collection/Preservation: Collect in bedpan or other clean receptacle. Do not collect from toilet. Place sample in enteric transport vial. Do not remove preservative. Mix specimen with preservative. Do not overfill past line on container. Deliver to lab immediately or store in refrigerator until delivery.	Storage Instructions: Store stool at 2-8° C (refrigerator). Do not freeze.
Causes for Rejection: Unpreserved stool >24 hours old.	Sample Container: Enteric transport container.
Sample Test Kit: Enteric transport container.	Availability: Monday-Friday
Diagnostic Information: Stool specimens should be collected in the acute phase of the illness and submitted in enteric transport container as soon as possible.	
<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
Request Form: Standard request form or electronically through Invision interface.	Specimen Handling: Handle body fluids using Universal Precautions. Infectious agent Biosafety Level 2.
Transport Temperature: 2-8° C	Shipping Requirements: Hand delivered.
<i>Billing</i>	
CPT Code(s): 87045/87046/87077/87147	Fees: \$35.00
Effective Date: June 15, 2011	