

THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LABORATORY

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTION AND PACKAGING OF SPECIMENS FOR
PINWORM EXAMINATION
VDH KIT #17**

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COLLECTING SPECIMEN

In order to comply with postal regulations and ensure the safety of laboratory personnel and others involved in transport of specimens, and to maintain integrity of the sample, the State Public Health Laboratory will accept for testing only those specimens that are packaged according to the instructions below.

The kit should contain:

- Pinworm collector vial
- Requisition form (MICRO 220)
- Mailing container
- Instructions (MICRO 415)

INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: The optimum time for obtaining the sample is early in the morning prior to rising.

Collection of Specimen:

1. Remove cap from vial.
2. The sticky side of the paddle is marked "STICKY SIDE". Press the sticky surface of the paddle against several areas of the perianal region of the patient.
3. Place paddle back in the vial and screw the cap on. **PRINT PATIENT NAME AND DATE OF COLLECTION ON LABELED PLASTIC VIAL.**
4. Fill out the requisition form completely. **The following information is required to ensure accurate and efficient processing of the specimen and reporting of test results.**
 - Name and address of health care provider
 - Patient's name and date of birth
 - Date of specimen collection
 - Type of specimen (Pinworm container)
 - Tests Requested (Pinworm identification)

5. Place vial and requisition form in mailing container provided and mail or deliver to laboratory as soon as possible.

For best results, at least 2 specimens, preferably 3, taken on consecutive days, should be submitted for testing.

Shipment of Specimen:

1. Specimen can be stored and shipped by mail or courier at room temperature.

The specimen may be rejected if:

- Date of specimen collection is missing on the specimen and form
- Patient name is missing on specimen and form
- Medical provider name/address is missing on the form
- Multiple specimens have the same collection date

The laboratory will decontaminate and discard any specimen which is improperly packaged and may present a risk to personnel.

Please call the laboratory if you have any comments or suggestions regarding these instructions.