



Stool Sampling Instructions

If you are sampling your child's diaper for the 1 or 3 month stool samples, we suggest using diaper liners to prevent the stool from being absorbed into the diaper. After you have finished changing your baby's diaper, keep the stool containing diaper readily available for sampling. Please note: sampling should occur immediately following your baby's bowel movement.

Purple Top Collection

Your kit should contain: 1 purple top tube, 1 sealable bag with drying sheet, and a collection form

1. While holding the yellow section of the tube, unscrew ONLY the purple cap from the kit and set aside for later use, be careful not to spill the tube's contents
2. Using the spatula, transfer pea sized amounts of stool into the yellow top. Repeat until the sample reaches to top and fills it completely. Do NOT push sample into the tube
3. Scrape horizontally across the tube to level the sample and remove any excess
4. Pick up the purple cap with the solid end facing down and screw onto the yellow tube top until tightly closed
5. Vigorously shake tube for a minimum of 30 seconds
6. Place a MAGIC ID sticker on the tube (these were provided in your enrollment folder)
7. Place tube into the sealable bag with "do not freeze" penguin sticker
8. Fill out the **Specimen Collection Form**, be sure to include the *date*, *time*, and *reason for collecting* (time point)

This sample can be kept at room temperature

Frozen Sample Collection (Blue Top)

Your kit should contain: 2 blue top collection tubes, diaper liner, 1 pair of gloves, 2 sealable bags and a collection form

1. Unscrew blue top from tube. Using spatula provided in the tube, scoop stool into the tube. Please try to collect as much stool as possible
2. Tightly screw back on the blue top (scoop still attached)
3. Label sample with date and time of collection
4. Place tube in clear bag with "please freeze" penguin sticker
5. If enough stool is left over, please repeat with second blue top tube
6. **Place sample immediately in your freezer**

Courier Pick Up: Once all samples are collected, please email themagicstudy@email.chop.edu to schedule a time for the courier to pick up your samples. Samples can be pick up within 90 minutes of notification Monday through Friday 9-5. If you would like a pick up on Saturdays or outside of the normal window the study team can make special arrangements. (Courier services are not needed for 1 week – 3 week samples or antibiotic samples)

Questions?

Email: themagicstudy@email.chop.edu

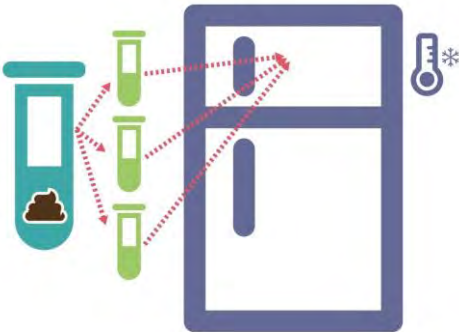
Call/text: 267-223-9730

Where do my baby's stool samples go?



Each stool sample you take at home is shipped to the laboratory of Dr. Dan Knights at the University of Minnesota.

Here, a team of researchers enters the information you listed on the sample collection sheet into a database, and distributes the stool sample into multiple storage samples. These samples are kept at -80°C in order to preserve them.



In batches of around 100 samples, the researchers at the University of Minnesota isolate the microbial DNA from each sample. This DNA encodes all the genetic information about each microbe living in the stool, including which species it is and what it is capable of doing.

We then sequence the microbial DNA in your baby's samples, using the same technology that we would use for sequencing a human genome. This allows us to measure a snapshot of the microbial profile in your baby's gut at that point in time. We then compare the profiles of hundreds of babies to find out what effects antibiotics and other exposures have on an infant's gut microbes. After several years we will test whether certain types of microbes are associated with increased weight gain later in life. This will help us to understand what causes childhood obesity.

