

MecStat[®] and MecStat[®] EtOH collection instructions

1. The maximum window of drug exposure will be achieved by collecting and pooling all meconium passed during the postnatal period. Because meconium is heterogeneous and drugs do not appear to diffuse throughout the entire meconium mass, the pooling of multiple passings of meconium is highly encouraged until the milk stool appears. Three grams (1 teaspoon) of meconium are necessary for maximum sensitivity. United States Drug Testing Laboratories (USDTL) will analyze smaller amounts, but with a resulting reduction in sensitivity and/or the window of drug exposure.
2. For your convenience, USDTL provides five non-absorbent polyethylene diaper liners. Strategically place the liner in the diaper so that as meconium is passed, it collects on the liner instead of the diaper. Collect by transferring the meconium from the diaper liner to the collection vial using the spatula provided. (If a kit is not available, a nonsterile, screw-top urine container and wooden tongue depressor may be used.) **Important: avoid any contact of ethanol liquid or vapor with the meconium.** Continue collecting into the same collection vial until milk stool appears.
3. Meconium specimens for FAEE analysis (MecStat[®] EtOH) should be refrigerated and protected from light until they are ready to be shipped. Maximum sensitivity is achieved when specimens are shipped in the frozen state.
4. Fill out specimen label and adhere to the vial. Be sure name and/or specimen number are on the vial. (Please do not overlap specimen label.) Affix the barcode security seal from the requisition form over the cap of the meconium vial.
5. Place meconium vial in the plastic specimen bag provided.
6. Fill out test requisition form. Be sure that you indicate which MecStat[®] test(s) you require.
7. Contact your courier for pick-up.

