

# Hemoccult Test

The hemoccult test is done to check if you have blood in your stool. You will need to collect stool samples from bowel movements on **3 different days** and apply to test cards.

You will be given a kit that will have:

- An envelope for storing and mailing your completed test cards
- 3 sticks to collect the stool samples
- 3 test cards
- 3 flushable tissues to collect stool samples. If your kit does not come with tissues, use a clean, dry container.

## Special notes about this test:

- Do not collect a sample if blood is visible in your stool or urine such as from a menstrual period, hemorrhoids or urinary tract infection.  
**Call your doctor.**
- Collect the stool before it has contact with toilet bowl water. Use the tissue in your kit or a clean, dry container.
- Completed test cards must be mailed **within 14 days** of the first sample collected.
- For **7 days** before and during the test period, do not take aspirin (more than one adult aspirin a day), ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), or naproxen (Aleve).
- For **3 days** before and during the test period **avoid**:
  - ▶ More than 250 milligrams (mg) of Vitamin C in your diet or as supplements
  - ▶ Red meat, such as beef, lamb and liver, including processed meats

## Follow these steps to collect the stool samples:

1. Open the envelope. Remove the 3 test cards.
2. Use a ball point pen to write your name, age and address on the front of each of the 3 cards. Put the cards back in the envelope.

3. Just before you have a bowel movement, remove **Card 1** from the envelope and put the date on the card.
4. Unfold a tissue and let it float on the surface of the toilet bowl water. Allow the edges to stick to the sides of the bowl. Let your stool fall onto the tissue. You may also use any clean, dry container to collect your stool.
5. Open the front of **Card 1** and use one of the sticks to collect a small sample of stool. Make sure the stool does not have contact with the toilet bowl water. Put the sample inside **Box A**.
6. Use the same stick to collect a second sample from a different part of the stool. Place this sample in **Box B**.
7. Close the flap over the card and throw the stick away in the trash. If used, flush the tissue.
8. Put the card in the envelope to store it until all 3 samples are collected.
9. Repeat steps 3 to 8 to collect 2 more samples for **Card 2** and **Card 3**.
10. After all the samples are collected, mail or return the samples to your doctor or lab, as directed.

**Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.**