Submitting Salmonella Cultures to Clinical Microbiology

VHC protocol requires that a series of 5 fecal samples be submitted from all patients identified as Salmonella suspects.

1) Place 2-3 grams of fresh feces in a **clean** screw cap cup.
   - Attach patient label
   - Confirm the outside of container is clean
   - **Do not place feces or cup containing feces in a glove!!**

2) Enter each Salmonella request in UVIS when the sample is collected (do not “batch order”)*.
   *Ordering the samples as they are collected ensures the time stamp on the medical record is correct and protocol was followed.
   - **Write the request ID number on the label**

3) Deliver the sample to Clinical Microbiology for processing immediately.

Samples may be collected 8 hours apart Monday-Friday; however, the two collections must take place prior to 4:30 p.m. Therefore, sample one must be collected by 8:00 a.m., and the other by 4:00 p.m.

On Saturday, only one sample may be collected, and it should be delivered to Clinical Microbiology no later than 8:00 a.m. The laboratory does not operate full hours on the weekend. If lab is closed, place sample in small brown refrigerator in hallway outside Clinical Microbiology and it will be processed as soon as possible.

Salmonella cultures should not be collected on Sundays, except in case of emergency admission of patient on same Sunday. Sample should be collected and ordered following above instructions, and placed in the refrigerator outside of Clinical Microbiology.