

Patient Instructions

Pocono Medical Center Laboratory

Pinworm (Enterobius Vermicularis)

“Scotch Tape Test”

- 1. Specimen Collector available from the Microbiology Laboratory.**
- 2. Patient Preparation: Specimen should be obtained one to three hours after patient has retired, or first thing in the morning before bath or bowel movement.**
- 3. Specimen collection: Sticky side of paddle is touched to perianal area. Paddle, which is attached to cap, is tightly replaced into container, labeled with patient’s name and date of collection, and sent to the laboratory.**
- 4. Specimen examination: Paddle with specimen becomes slide for microscope analysis.**
- 5. Specimen disposal: Replace paddle into container and dispose in biohazard bag and autoclave.**
- 6. Special comments and clinical use: The most satisfactory method for diagnosis of E. vermicularis is recovery of eggs or female worms from perianal region, since only 5 to 10 percent of infected individuals pass eggs in the stool.
One negative result does not rule out the possibility of infection. Three or four consecutive morning slides may be necessary to establish diagnosis.**

If you have any questions regarding the collection requirements, you may contact the Pocono Medical Center Laboratory at (570) 476-3371 after 6 p.m. or (570) 476-3369 after 6 p.m.