Frequently Asked Questions

How is the product used?
Using the Flocked Swab provided in the collection kit, a small sample of feces (approx 1g) can be transferred into the tube by medical staff at point of care or by a technologist after the fecal specimen has been received in the laboratory. Alternatively, FecalSwab™ can be used to take a rectal sample directly from the patient.

What type of media is used with FecalSwab™?
Cary-Blair media.

Can FecalSwab™ be used with automation?
Yes, FecalSwab™ is packaged in plastic, ready-to-use tubes, which can easily be put onto WASP® DT automation specimen processor.

Can FecalSwab™ be used for molecular testing?
FecalSwab™ is suitable for enteric pathogen recovery using traditional bacteriology culture. The system is also compatible with enteric molecular assays for bacteria, viruses and parasites where package inserts indicate Cary-Blair collection systems for sample collection*.

Why is it important to mash the specimen if the flocked swab will elute the sample into the Cary-Blair media?
Mashing the specimen helps to evenly disperse and suspend the specimen ensuring a homogenous sample.

Can a lubricant be used prior to insertion with a rectal swab?
Yes. The performance of FecalSwab™ and a lubricant used in clinical practice is within the range of M40-A2 acceptability limits.

Why is there a max fill line?
The max fill line is present to ensure the optimal ratio between the Cary-Blair media and specimen in order to preserve the viability of the enteric pathogenic bacteria.

* Always read the manufacturer’s package insert for specific instructions regarding specimen collection and transport for the type of test kit being used.