

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Pre-clinical Consortium on Combination Therapies for Type I Diabetes

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MOUSE STOOL SAMPLE COLLECTION AND STORAGE

All sites should collect a stool sample from each animal at 10 weeks of age for baseline evaluation of the gut microbiome.

Mice can be restrained via scruffing. Alternatively, they may be allowed to rest on the wire rack of the cage and held gently by the tail. Most animals will excrete stool within 30 seconds of manual restraint. Two to four fresh fecal pellets should be collected directly from the animal into an individually labeled sterile, DNase free 2mL tube using clean gloves or sterile forceps. Ideally, minimal to no contact should be made between gloves and the sample. Gloves should be changed or cleaned with disinfectant and the hood surface cleaned with disinfectant between cages to prevent cross-contamination. If forceps are used, they should be replaced between animals. Alternatively, forceps can be wiped clean and immersed in dilute bleach (10%) solution for 10 minutes prior to reuse.

Following collection, tubes containing stool samples should be snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C.