

Laboratory News

VOL. 46, NO. 6 – May 1, 2023

Discontinuation of In-House Ova and Parasite, Special (Complete) [OPS]

Dr. Sophie Arbefeville, Dr. Thomas Novicki, Mary Stemper, Bronnyn Bulgrin, Kevin Davy

Effective June 1, 2023 Marshfield Labs will no longer be performing the Ova and Parasite, Special (Complete) in-house. Testing will be sent to our reference laboratory at Mayo Medical Laboratories.*

Inside this Issue

Ova and Parasite (OPS) Changes

OPS Change 1
Specimen Collection 1
Test Order Information..... 2

Diarrheal Pathogens

Available Tests 3

Changes in Ova and Parasite (OPS) Testing

Marshfield Labs will no longer be performing the Ova and Parasite, Special (Complete) in-house and will send this testing to Mayo Medical Laboratories.*

* This testing should only be ordered by GI and ID providers when other causative agents of diarrhea have been ruled out (i.e. EPPNAT, SSCSNAT, and CDNAT all negative), and the patient has travel history, eosinophilia, immunocompromised, or has worms present in stool.

Important Note:

Total Fix will no longer be an acceptable transport container for this O &P test. Submit specimens in EcoFix STOOL transport vial. After June 1, 2023 Total Fix specimens will be rejected.



NOT ACCEPTABLE



ACCEPTABLE

How To Order This Test

Test Code: MISC

Order Name: OPE (include in Order Comments), OVA AND PARASITE, MICROSCOPY, F

Patient Preparation:

Specimen collection should be delayed for 7-10 days after the administration of barium, bismuth, kaolin, magnesia, castor oil or mineral oil, and 2-3 weeks after antibiotics have been given since these may interfere with identification of protozoa.

Specimen:

- Feces in EcoFix preservative– At least 3 specimens should be collected, 1 each day or on alternate days (over a maximum 10-day period).
- Place specimen in preservative within 30 mins of collection.
- Add adequate amounts of fecal matter to the fill line.
- Mix contents of the tube with the spoon, twist cap tightly closed, and shake vigorously until the contents are well mixed.
- Do no fill above the line indicated on the container.
-

Storage

Ambient (preferred)-21 days

Refrigerated- 21 days

Test availability: Monday through Saturday

Clinical interpretation:

Detection and identification of parasitic protozoa and the eggs of the larvae of parasitic helminths. A positive result indicates the presence of the parasite but does not necessarily indicate that it is the cause of symptoms. Some strains of protozoa are nonpathogenic and some helminths cause little to no illness.

CPT Codes

87177-Concentration for infectious agents

87209- Smear, primary source with interpretation; complex special stain (e.g. trichrome, iron hematoxylin) for oval and parasites

Tests for Diarrheal Pathogens Available at Marshfield

SSCSNAT – Fecal Bacteria-only Pathogen Panel, NAT Test includes: *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp. (*C. jejuni* and *C. coli* species only), and Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC)

CDNAT – *C. difficile* Toxin, Nucleic Acid Test includes: *Clostridioides difficile* toxin only

PINW – Pinworm Test includes: Pinworm (*Enterobius vermicularis*) only

EPPNAT – Enteric Parasite Panel, NAT Test includes: *Giardia*, *Cryptosporidium*, and *E. histolytica*.

Questions:

Please call Marshfield Labs (ext. 16700 or 800-222-5835) with questions pertaining to this test:

- Clinical-Dr. Thomas Novicki or Dr. Sophie Arbefeville
- Technical- Mary Stemper or Kevin Davy