



# Marshfield Labs™

A division of Marshfield Clinic

# Laboratory *News*

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## **TOTAL-FIX™: A NEW COLLECTION VIAL FOR SPECIAL PARASITOLOGY**

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Effective October 9, 2017, Marshfield Labs began supplying a new type of collection transport for **Ova and Parasite, Special (OPS)** testing. The *Total-Fix™* (black cap vial, image at right) is a single vial transport that will replace the current dual vial Para-Pak 10% Formalin/PVA, pink and grey capped kit as existing stocks are depleted. Specimens collected with a Para-Pak 10% Formalin/PVA kit will continue to be accepted as long as they have not passed their expiration date.

Coinciding with the discontinuation of Para-Pak 10% Formalin/PVA kits, Marshfield Labs is also switching the collection vial for **Ova and Parasites, Routine-Giardia/Cryptosporidium (OPRCG, OPRC, and OPRG)** testing. The C&S Transport also known as Cary Blair Medium (orange cap) will now be the preferred vial for specimens submitted for Giardia and Cryptosporidium. Note that the C&S vial is commonly used for other stool testing such as bacterial

pathogen detection (i.e. SSCSNAT).

Therefore, only one vial is required if **Ova and Parasites, Routine-Giardia/Cryptosporidium** is ordered concomitantly. Ordering pattern varies, thus Table 1 (on the following page) offers a general guide.

These specimen transport changes are being made to better coordinate the collection vials with ordering practice, reduce cost, and minimize handling of hazardous reagents. Please share this information with support staff handling test supplies to assure that all par locations are updated as needed.



**Table 1.** Suggested ordering practice based on clinical presentation.

Marshfield Orderable Test	Healthcare-acquired In-patient >2 days	Travel-related	Community-acquired ≤ 7 days	Community-acquired ≥ 7 days	Preferred Collection Vial
<b>SSCSNAT</b> ( <i>Salmonella</i> , <i>Shigella</i> , <i>Campylobacter</i> , <i>E coli</i> Toxin Nucleic Acid Test)	No	Yes	Yes	Selective **	C&S* (orange cap)
<b>OPRCG</b> (Ova & Parasite-Routine <i>Cryptosporidium</i> / <i>Giardia</i> )	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	C&S* (orange cap)
<b>OPS</b> (Ova & Parasite-Special)	No	Yes	No	No	Total-Fix™ (black cap)
<b>CDNAT</b> ( <i>C difficile</i> Nucleic Acid Test)	Yes	Selective **	Selective **	Selective **	Fresh, unpreserved

\* Collect only one C&S vial if ordering both **SSCSNAT** and **OPRCG** tests.

\*\* Selective based on clinical judgement, history of antibiotic use, and healthcare setting exposures.

## CONTACTS

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