



Ova & Parasite Exam to be forwarded to Mayo Clinical Laboratories

Beginning August 7th 2024, requests for Ova & Parasite Exams will be referred to Mayo Clinical Laboratories. Testing will be discontinued at UVMMC on this date.

TEST NAME OVA AND PARASITE, FECES
L-CODE OPE

SAMPLE REQUIREMENT **ECOFIX Stool Transport Vial (T790)**

Clients may request replacement ECOFIX Stool Transport Vials (T790) using the NMC Laboratory Supply Requisition.

Black capped stool transport vials previously used for Ova and Parasite Testing will no longer be accepted as of 8/07/2024.



Container:	Specimen	Temperature	Collect/Submit Vol	Min Vol	Stability
ECOFIX Stool Transport Vial (T790) (preferred)	Feces	Ambient	2 g or 2 ml	2 g or 2 ml	21 days
*10% Buffered Formalin Stool Transport AND Zinc Polyvinyl Alcohol (Zn PVA) Stool Transport (one of each) (acceptable)	Feces	Ambient	2 g or 2 ml	2 g or 2 ml	21 days

Collection Instructions:

Refrigerated sample is acceptable for 21 days

Place specimen into ECOFIX preservative vial or one 10% formalin and one Zn PVA preservative vial within 30 minutes of passage or collection. Refer to the fill line on the preservative vial. Do not fill above the line indicated on the container. Mix the contents of the tube with the spoon, twist the cap to close tightly, and shake vigorously until the contents are well mixed.

*Stool placed in the 10% buffered formalin can be accepted if accompanied by Zn PVA-preserved specimen; 10% buffered formalin-preserved specimens submitted without an accompanying Zn PVA-preserved specimen will be canceled.

Specimen submitted in low viscosity (LV)-PVA, mercury PVA or copper (CU)-PVA will be rejected.

Patient Preparation:

Specimen collection should be delayed for 1 to 10 days after administration of barium, bismouth, kaolin, magnesia, castor oil or mineral oil, and 2 to 3 weeks after antibiotics have been given since these may interfere with identification of protozoa.

Additional Testing Requirements:

Parasites are shed irregularly in stool and examination of a single specimen does not guarantee detection. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that multiple stool specimens be submitted for ova and parasite analysis. At least 3 specimens should be collected. If multiple ova and parasite collections are requested, instruct the patient to collect a specimen at least 12 hours after last collection.

Test Down - Giardia and Cryptosporidium Antigen Detection

UVMMC has provided notice that the Giardia and Cryptosporidium Antigen Detection assay will be temporarily unavailable. They are not recommending an alternative referral option during the down time for the following reasons:

- In a review of Giardia and Cryptosporidium antigen tests performed at UVMMC in the last 12 months, approximately 3% are positive for either target; and of those, almost all are positive for Giardia, which would be detected in an Ova and Parasite Exam
- There are no alternative tests available at our reference partner Mayo Clinical Laboratories that use the same collection container as Ova and Parasite testing.
- In addition, there is no single replacement test that detects both Giardia and Cryptosporidium antigen available at Mayo Clinical Laboratories.

An update will be provided when testing resumes at UVMMC.

The online NMC Test Catalog provides details for these and all other tests.

<https://nmc.testcatalog.org/>

Please contact the Laboratory (802-524-1070) with any questions or concerns.