

Microbiology Stool Testing at Alomere

	Indications	Sample requirements	Set up & Turnaround
Stool culture (Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, E coli 0157, Aeromonas and Shigatoxin)	Acute community acquired diarrhea. Bloody diarrhea.	Fresh unpreserved, unformed stool refrigerated <24 hrs C&S ok, No frozen	Set up daily. Minimum 48 hours for negative.
Clostridium difficile (PCR)	Acute diarrhea with antibiotic exposure or hospitalized > 3days	Fresh unpreserved, unformed stool refrigerated <5 days C&S and frozen OK Formed stools are rejected	Set up daily. About 1 hour
Norovirus (PCR)	Acute diarrhea & vomiting Exposure	Fresh unpreserved, unformed stool refrigerated ≤2days No C&S, frozen OK	Set up daily About 1 1/2 hours
Rotavirus (EIA)	Acute diarrhea & vomiting. Children, elderly & immunocompromised.	Fresh unpreserved, unformed stool refrigerated <3 days or frozen	Set up daily < 1 day
Giardia/Cryptosporidium (EIA)	Diarrhea with history of travel, farm contact, contaminated water or food. Daycare or outbreak. HIV.	Fresh stool Refrigerated < 3 days, Formalin, Cary Blair, C&S ok Frozen OK	Set up daily <1 day
Ova & Parasite Exam	Usually not indicated, see below. Persistant diarrhea, negative EIA for Giardia/Crypto. Resident or travel to developing country. Contaminated water. HIV. Possible parasites seen in stool. Contact with farm animals	Fresh stool (1-3 hours old) or preserved 1 vial Ecofix, Totalfix or 1 each Formalin/PVA vials Additional samples days apart increase detection.	Done M, W, F 1-3 days
Fecal Leukocytes	Bacterial diarrhea & bowel inflammation.	Fresh stool	Set up daily <1 day
H pylori	Gastric symptoms	Fresh stool Cary Blair, C&S and Frozen ok	Set up daily <1 day