Laboratory Testing for Infectious Causes of Diarrhea

Community-acquired diarrhea, <7 days duration WITHOUT warning signs or risk factors for severe disease

Testing not generally indicated

If diarrhea persists:

Consider:
- GIP / Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel, PCR, Feces
- CDFRP / Clostridioides (Clostridium) difficile Toxin, Molecular Detection, PCR, Feces

Health care-associated diarrhea (onset after the 3rd inpatient day) or patients with recent antibiotic use

Community-acquired diarrhea ≥7 days duration OR Travel-related diarrhea OR Diarrhea with warning signs/risk factors for severe disease

If diarrhea persists:

No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates

Consider:
- STL / Enteric Pathogens Culture, Stool
- GIAR / Giardia Antigen, Feces
- LCMSP / Microsporidia species, Molecular Detection, PCR (immunocompromised patients)
- OAP / Parasitic Examination

Use clinical judgment to guide the need for additional testing.

Note: In outbreak scenarios with a known organism, consider ordering a specific test for that organism (CYCL / Cyclospora Stain; CRUPS / Cryptosporidium Antigen, Feces; GIAR / Giardia Antigen, Feces; bacterial stool culture)