Overview

Useful For
Suggesting the presence of pathogens such as *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, and amebiasis

Method Name
Microscopic

Includes trichrome stain.

NY State Available
Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type
Fecal

Specimen Required

Supplies: ECOFIX Stool Transport Vial (Kit) (T219)

Container/Tube:

Preferred: ECOFIX preservative

Acceptable: Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) preservative

Specimen Volume: Representative portion of collection

Collection Instructions:

1. Collect a random fecal specimen.

2. Carefully follow instructions on container.

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Microbiology Test Request (T244) with the specimen.

Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fecal</td>
<td>Ambient (preferred)</td>
<td>21 days</td>
<td>PVA OR ECOFIX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refrigerated</td>
<td>21 days</td>
<td>PVA OR ECOFIX</td>
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</table>
Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information
Leukocytes are not normally seen in feces in the absence of infection or other inflammatory processes. Fecal leukocytosis is a response to infection with microorganisms that invade tissue or produce toxins, which causes tissue damage.

Fecal leukocytes are commonly found in patients with shigellosis and salmonellosis and sometimes in amebiasis. Mononuclear cells are found in typhoid fever.

Ulcerative colitis may also be associated with fecal leukocytosis.

Reference Values
Interpretive report

Interpretation
When fecal leukocytes are found they are reported in a semiquantitative manner: "few" indicates < or =2/oil immersion microscopic field (OIF); "moderate" indicates 3/OIF to 9/OIF; "many" indicates > or =10/OIF.

The greater the number of fecal leukocytes, the greater the likelihood that an invasive pathogen such as Salmonella or Shigella is present.

Few or no leukocytes and many erythrocytes suggests amebiasis.

Fecal leukocytes are rarely seen in diarrheas caused by other parasites or viruses.

Cautions
Fecal leukocyte examinations cannot be performed on formalin-preserved specimens. Therefore, ECOFIX-preserved or polyvinyl alcohol-preserved feces must be sent to the laboratory.

Clinical Reference

Performance

Method Description
Feces preserved in ECOFIX preservative or polyvinyl alcohol are stained with trichrome. (Garcia LS: Diagnostic Medical Parasitology. Fifth edition. ASM Press Dec 28, 2007)

PDF Report
No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed
Monday through Saturday; Varies

Analytic Time
1 day

Maximum Laboratory Time
Test Definition: LEU
Fecal Leukocytes

2 days

Specimen Retention Time
3 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees

- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification
This test uses a standard method. Its performance characteristics were determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information
89055

LOINC® Information

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<tr>
<th>Test ID</th>
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<th>Order LOINC Value</th>
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<td>LEU</td>
<td>Fecal Leukocytes</td>
<td>13655-6</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<td>LEU</td>
<td>Fecal Leukocytes</td>
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