



Lab Alert – O&P, Cryptosporidium, and Giardia Testing Performed at Reference Laboratory

On **April 7, 2016** UIH Microbiology Lab will transition the performance of Ova and Parasite Exam testing (O&P) and Cryptosporidium and Giardia Antigen Detection testing to an off-site reference laboratory.

Required Transport Container: Total Fix

Eco-Fix or Fresh Stool Container will **not be accepted**.



Patient Preparation: Interfering substances-bismuth, barium (wait 7-10 days), antimicrobial agents (wait 2 weeks), gall bladder dye (wait 3 weeks after procedure).

Preferred Volume of Stool: 10 grams or 10 mL **Minimum Volume of Stool:** 5 grams or 5 mL

Transport Temperature: Room Temperature

Expected Time To Result: 4 days

Test Method: O&P—Microscopic Examination of Concentrate Permanent Stained
Cryptosporidium—Direct Fluorescent Antibody (DFA) Testing
Giardia—Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA) Testing

Collection Instructions:

Place fresh stool in Total-Fix vial within 30 minutes of collection. Add stool to bring the liquid level to the "fill to here" line on the vial. Mix well. Send specimen(s) at room temperature in the same shipping container. If parasite infestation is strongly suspected, collect at least 3 stool specimens every other day, since a single specimen can be negative.

For questions, please contact Dr. Amanda T. Harrington, Director of Clinical Microbiology Laboratory (6-5608, harrisa@uic.edu) or Jo-Ann Curry, Manager of Clinical Microbiology Laboratory (6-7685, joacurry@uic.edu).