



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Hospital & Health Sciences System

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Department of Pathology

Laboratory Alert

December 3, 2015

Lab Alert – Changes in Testing for Stool Pathogens and Rotavirus

On Tuesday, December 8, 2015 the Microbiology Lab will begin offering testing for stool pathogens by PCR. **This new method replaces stool culture.** It allows for faster, more sensitive detection of stool pathogens and includes detection of viruses and Shiga toxin in addition to bacteria.

Test Name: Gastrointestinal Panel by PCR or Stool Pathogens Panel by PCR

Turn-Around-Time: 24-48 hours

Required Specimen: loose or soft stool in **Cary-Blair transport media** (see picture below)

Pathogens Detected:

Campylobacter group

Salmonella species

Shigella species

Vibrio group

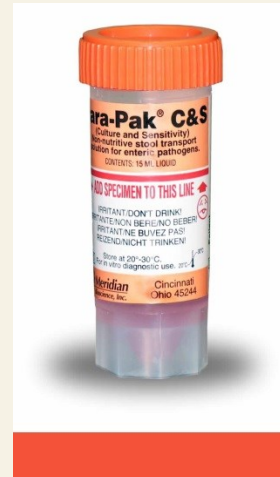
Yersinia enterocolitica

Shiga Toxin 1 & 2

Norovirus GI/GII

Rotavirus A

Aeromonas species (detected by culture)



Rotavirus Antigen will be discontinued as a stand-alone test, and results will be reported with the stool PCR panel.

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