



# Modified Acid Fast Stain

*Intestinal Coccidian Oocysts*

## Test Description

A stool sample is collected in a sterile, dry container and submitted to the laboratory. Small portions of the specimen are fixed onto 3 clean microscope slides then stained using the Modified Ziehl-Neelson Acid Fast Stain. Slides are examined at 400X and 1000X magnification to identify and confirm the presence of *Cryptosporidium spp.*, *Cyclospora belli*, and/or *Isospora belli*. Results include identification as well as quantity (i.e., rare, few, moderate, many).

## Specimen Collection/Transport conditions

- Stool sample
  - Temperature: Refrigerated (2-8 °C)
  - Specimen Submission: Specimen must be received as soon as possible after collection
  - Container: Sterile specimen container
  - Acceptable Specimens:
    - Stools collected in dry kits
    - Formalin-ethyl acetate sedimentation concentrate
    - Stools preserved in fixative SAF (sodium acetate, acetic acid, and formalin)
  - Unacceptable Specimens
    - Stools preserved in Cary-Blair transport medium
    - Stools preserved in polyvinyl alcohol preservative solution

## Laboratory Unit

Bacteriology



## Methodology

Wet mount microscopy

## Acceptable Specimen Type(s)

Stool sample

## Test Request

Coming Soon

## Possible Results:

- Present
- Absent

## Reference Range

Absent

## Rejection Criteria

- Unreadable/missing/insufficient labeling
- Wrong specimen collection kit
- Expired specimen collection kit
- Storage/transportation requirements not met
- Leaking or contaminated specimen transport container
- Quantity not sufficient
- Specimen too old
  - Collected it in acceptable kit but did not submit within appropriate time window
- Improperly collected specimen
  - Stools preserved in Cary-Blair transport medium
  - Stools preserved in polyvinyl alcohol preservative solution
- Specimen not inoculated/ no specimen submitted

## Result Reported

*THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE REGARDED AS THE OFFICIAL ALLEGHENY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY TEST LIST. IT IS TO BE MAINTAINED UNDER CHANGE CONTROL BY THE LABORATORY DIRECTOR OR THE LIMS SPECIALIST. Last Updated: 7/26/2024*

ALLEGHENY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

3901 Penn Ave, Building 8

Pittsburgh, PA 15224

412.578.8070

2-14 days

**LOINC Code(s)**

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