

Test Update

New Epic Acute Diarrhea Panel

UVM Medical Center

Effective July 29, 2026, a new Acute Diarrhea Panel will be available to improve ease of ordering in Epic. The panel is for patients with acute diarrheal disease that is travel-related or who have risk factors for severe disease and will include the following orderable tests (unselected):

- Fecal Bacterial Pathogens by PCR (LAB3625)
- Parasite Screen, Stool (LAB17777)
- C. Difficile EIA (LAB17910) (available as of 7/29)

The individual tests will **not** be pre-selected as all may not be needed due to patient exposure and risk factors. Only the individual tests that are clinically necessary should be selected. Please see the **NOTE** below that details different containers for each test.

Please refer to the *Cyclospora* Outbreak Test Alert, if testing is clinically indicated.

NOTE: Specimen Requirements

Fecal Bacterial Pathogens by PCR:

- Cary Blair vial stored refrigerated prior to transportation to the laboratory for testing. Specimens are stable for 72 hours, but ideal specimens are received in the laboratory within 24 hours of collection.

Parasite Screen, Stool:

- Collected in an ECOFIX collection container stored at room temperature.

C. Difficile EIA:

- Collected in a sterile cup, must be unformed feces refrigerated (2 – 8 C) up to 72 hours.

With the availability of this new Epic panel, GI Pathogen Panel, PCR, F. (Mayo GIP, LAB15590), will be discontinued as it is expensive, may not be covered by insurance and can lead to increased C. diff rates.

Test to be Discontinued	Epic Code	Atlas Code	Mayo Test ID
GI Pathogen Panel, PCR, F.	LAB15590	LAB15590	GIP

For questions regarding these changes, please contact the Director of Microbiology, Dr. Christina Wojewoda @christina.wojewoda@uvmhealth.org.