Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Parasitic Investigation of Stool Specimens Algorithm

Watery diarrhea in patients who:
- Have AIDS
- Are ≤5 years old (or contact)
- Are campers or backpackers
- Have contact with farm animals
- Are involved in an outbreak
  - Drinking/Recreational water source
  - Day care center

Patient is:
- A resident or visitor to a developing country
- A resident or visitor to an area of North America where helminth (worm) infections have been reported with some frequency
- Possible roundworms or tapeworm segments are identified in stool/undergarments

Possible roundworms or tapeworm segments are identified in stool/undergarments and are available for submission to lab

Worm Identification (WID)
- Positive
  - No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates
  - Object submitted is not a parasite. Consider submitting additional specimens or evaluate for delusional parasitosis.
- Negative

Giardia and Cryptosporidium Antigen Detection (GICR)
- Positive
  - No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates
  - If diarrhea persists
- Negative

O&P Parasitic Examination (OP) and Giardia & Cryptosporidium Exam (GICR)
- Positive
  - No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates
  - If intestinal parasites are still suspected, obtain at least 2 more stool specimens, collected on separate days over a 10 day period
- Negative

Microsporidium PCR (MSPOR) and/or Modified Acid Fast Parasitology (CSPORA)