



LAB #: F160916-0227-1
 PATIENT: John Sample
 ID: P162600100
 SEX: Male
 DOB: 01/02/1979 AGE: 37



+44 (0) 203 750 0870
 Regenerus Laboratories Ltd

Comprehensive Stool Analysis / Parasitology x3

BACTERIOLOGY CULTURE

Expected/Beneficial flora	Commensal (Imbalanced) flora	Dysbiotic flora
4+ Bacteroides fragilis group	3+ Beta strep, group B	3+ Providencia alcalifaciens
1+ Bifidobacterium spp.	3+ Beta strep, not group A or B	
4+ Escherichia coli		
1+ Lactobacillus spp.		
NG Enterococcus spp.		
3+ Clostridium spp.		
NG = No Growth		

BACTERIA INFORMATION

Expected /Beneficial bacteria make up a significant portion of the total microflora in a healthy & balanced GI tract. These beneficial bacteria have many health-protecting effects in the GI tract including manufacturing vitamins, fermenting fibers, digesting proteins and carbohydrates, and propagating anti-tumor and anti-inflammatory factors.

Clostridia are prevalent flora in a healthy intestine. Clostridium spp. should be considered in the context of balance with other expected/beneficial flora. Absence of clostridia or over abundance relative to other expected/beneficial flora indicates bacterial imbalance. If *C. difficile* associated disease is suspected, a Comprehensive Clostridium culture or toxigenic *C. difficile* DNA test is recommended.

Commensal (Imbalanced) bacteria are usually neither pathogenic nor beneficial to the host GI tract. Imbalances can occur when there are insufficient levels of beneficial bacteria and increased levels of commensal bacteria. Certain commensal bacteria are reported as dysbiotic at higher levels.

Dysbiotic bacteria consist of known pathogenic bacteria and those that have the potential to cause disease in the GI tract. They can be present due to a number of factors including: consumption of contaminated water or food, exposure to chemicals that are toxic to beneficial bacteria; the use of antibiotics, oral contraceptives or other medications; poor fiber intake and high stress levels.

YEAST CULTURE

Normal flora	Dysbiotic flora
No yeast isolated	

MICROSCOPIC YEAST

Result: **Expected:** None - Rare

The microscopic finding of yeast in the stool is helpful in identifying whether there is proliferation of yeast. Rare yeast may be normal; however, yeast observed in higher amounts (few, moderate, or many) is abnormal.

YEAST INFORMATION

Yeast normally can be found in small quantities in the skin, mouth, intestine and mucocutaneous junctions. Overgrowth of yeast can infect virtually every organ system, leading to an extensive array of clinical manifestations. Fungal diarrhea is associated with broad-spectrum antibiotics or alterations of the patient's immune status. Symptoms may include abdominal pain, cramping and irritation. When investigating the presence of yeast, disparity may exist between culturing and microscopic examination. Yeast are not uniformly dispersed throughout the stool, this may lead to undetectable or low levels of yeast identified by microscopy, despite a cultured amount of yeast. Conversely, microscopic examination may reveal a significant amount of yeast present, but no yeast cultured. Yeast does not always survive transit through the intestines rendering it unviable.

Comments:

Date Collected: 09/09/2016
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*** Aeromonas, Campylobacter, Plesiomonas, Salmonella, Shigella, Vibrio, Yersinia, & Edwardsiella tarda have been specifically tested for and found absent unless reported.**





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PARASITOLOGY/MICROSCOPY
<p>Sample 1</p> <p>None Ova or Parasites Rare Yeast</p>
<p>Sample 2</p> <p>None Ova or Parasites Few Yeast</p>
<p>Sample 3</p> <p>None Ova or Parasites Rare Yeast</p>

PARASITOLOGY INFORMATION
<p>Intestinal parasites are abnormal inhabitants of the gastrointestinal tract that have the potential to cause damage to their host. The presence of any parasite within the intestine generally confirms that the patient has acquired the organism through fecal-oral contamination. Damage to the host includes parasitic burden, migration, blockage and pressure. Immunologic inflammation, hypersensitivity reactions and cytotoxicity also play a large role in the morbidity of these diseases. The infective dose often relates to severity of the disease and repeat encounters can be additive.</p> <p>There are two main classes of intestinal parasites, they include protozoa and helminths. The protozoa typically have two stages; the trophozoite stage that is the metabolically active, invasive stage and the cyst stage, which is the vegetative inactive form resistant to unfavorable environmental conditions outside the human host. Helminths are large, multicellular organisms. Like protozoa, helminths can be either free-living or parasitic in nature. In their adult form, helminths cannot multiply in humans.</p> <p>In general, acute manifestations of parasitic infection may involve diarrhea with or without mucus and or blood, fever, nausea, or abdominal pain. However these symptoms do not always occur. Consequently, parasitic infections may not be diagnosed or eradicated. If left untreated, chronic parasitic infections can cause damage to the intestinal lining and can be an unsuspected cause of illness and fatigue. Chronic parasitic infections can also be associated with increased intestinal permeability, irritable bowel syndrome, irregular bowel movements, malabsorption, gastritis or indigestion, skin disorders, joint pain, allergic reactions, and decreased immune function.</p> <p>In some instances, parasites may enter the circulation and travel to various organs causing severe organ diseases such as liver abscesses and cysticercosis. In addition, some larval migration can cause pneumonia and in rare cases hyper infection syndrome with large numbers of larvae being produced and found in every tissue of the body.</p> <p>One negative parasitology x1 specimen does not rule out the possibility of parasitic disease, parasitology x3 is recommended. This test is not designed to detect Cyclospora cayetanensis or Microsporidia spp.</p>

GIARDIA/CRYPTOSPORIDIUM IMMUNOASSAY			
	Within	Outside	Reference Range
<i>Giardia duodenalis</i>	Neg		Neg
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	Neg		Neg

Giardia duodenalis (AKA *intestinalis* and *lamblia*) is a protozoan that infects the small intestine and is passed in stool and spread by the fecal-oral route. Waterborne transmission is the major source of giardiasis.

Cryptosporidium is a coccidian protozoa that can be spread from direct person-to-person contact or waterborne transmission.

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DIGESTION / ABSORPTION

	Within	Outside	Reference Range	
Elastase	357		> 200 µg/mL	<p>Elastase findings can be used for the diagnosis or the exclusion of exocrine pancreatic insufficiency. Correlations between low levels and chronic pancreatitis and cancer have been reported. Fat Stain: Microscopic determination of fecal fat using Sudan IV staining is a qualitative procedure utilized to assess fat absorption and to detect steatorrhea. Muscle fibers in the stool are an indicator of incomplete digestion. Bloating, flatulence, feelings of "fullness" may be associated with increase in muscle fibers. Vegetable fibers in the stool may be indicative of inadequate chewing, or eating "on the run". Carbohydrates: The presence of reducing substances in stool specimens can indicate carbohydrate malabsorption.</p>
Fat Stain	None		None - Mod	
Muscle fibers	None		None - Rare	
Vegetable fibers	Rare		None - Few	
Carbohydrates	Neg		Neg	

INFLAMMATION

	Within	Outside	Reference Range	
Lactoferrin	6.5		< 7.3 µg/mL	<p>Lactoferrin and Calprotectin are reliable markers for differentiating organic inflammation (IBD) from functional symptoms (IBS) and for management of IBD. Monitoring levels of fecal lactoferrin and calprotectin can play an essential role in determining the effectiveness of therapy, are good predictors of IBD remission, and can indicate a low risk of relapse. Lysozyme* is an enzyme secreted at the site of inflammation in the GI tract and elevated levels have been identified in IBD patients. White Blood Cells (WBC) and Mucus in the stool can occur with bacterial and parasitic infections, with mucosal irritation, and inflammatory bowel diseases such as Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.</p>
Calprotectin*	37		<= 50 µg/g	
Lysozyme*	322		<= 600 ng/mL	
White Blood Cells	None		None - Rare	
Mucus	Neg		Neg	

IMMUNOLOGY

	Within	Outside	Reference Range	
Secretory IgA*		1050	51 - 204 mg/dL	<p>Secretory IgA* (sIgA) is secreted by mucosal tissue and represents the first line of defense of the GI mucosa and is central to the normal function of the GI tract as an immune barrier. Elevated levels of sIgA have been associated with an upregulated immune response.</p>

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*For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.
 Methodology: Elisa, Microscopy, Colormetric,
 Gas Chromatography, pH Electrode



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SHORT CHAIN FATTY ACIDS

	Within	Outside	Reference Range
% Acetate	68		40 - 75 %
% Propionate	14		9 - 29 %
% Butyrate	14		9 - 37 %
% Valerate	4.6		0.5 - 7 %
Butyrate		0.38	0.8 - 4.8 mg/mL
Total SCFA's		2.8	4 - 18 mg/mL

Short chain fatty acids (SCFAs): SCFAs are the end product of the bacterial fermentation process of dietary fiber by beneficial flora in the gut and play an important role in the health of the GI as well as protecting against intestinal dysbiosis. Lactobacilli and bifidobacteria produce large amounts of short chain fatty acids, which decrease the pH of the intestines and therefore make the environment unsuitable for pathogens, including bacteria and yeast. Studies have shown that SCFAs have numerous implications in maintaining gut physiology. SCFAs decrease inflammation, stimulate healing, and contribute to normal cell metabolism and differentiation. Levels of **Butyrate** and **Total SCFA** in mg/mL are important for assessing overall SCFA production, and are reflective of beneficial flora levels and/or adequate fiber intake.

INTESTINAL HEALTH MARKERS

	Within	Outside	Reference Range
Red Blood Cells	None		None - Rare
pH	7.1		6 - 7.8
Occult Blood		Pos	Neg

Red Blood Cells (RBC) in the stool may be associated with a parasitic or bacterial infection, or an inflammatory bowel condition such as ulcerative colitis. Colorectal cancer, anal fistulas, and hemorrhoids should also be ruled out.

pH: Fecal pH is largely dependent on the fermentation of fiber by the beneficial flora of the gut.

Occult blood: A positive occult blood indicates the presence of free hemoglobin found in the stool, which is released when red blood cells are lysed.

MACROSCOPIC APPEARANCE

	Appearance	Expected
Color	Brown	Brown
Consistency	Soft	Formed/Soft

Color: Stool is normally brown because of pigments formed by bacteria acting on bile introduced into the digestive system from the liver. While certain conditions can cause changes in stool color, many changes are harmless and are caused by pigments in foods or dietary supplements. **Consistency:** Stool normally contains about 75% water and ideally should be formed and soft. Stool consistency can vary based upon transit time and water absorption.

