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**Lab Dept:** Microbiology

**Test Name:** FECAL LACTOFERRIN

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** FLAC

**Synonyms:** Qualitative fecal lactoferrin; fecal leukocyte maker; fecal WBC; stool PMNs; fecal PMNs

**CPT Codes:** 83630 - Lactoferrin, fecal

**Test Includes:** Detection of elevated levels of fecal lactoferrin, a marker for fecal leukocytes and an indicator of intestinal inflammation.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** With inflammatory diarrhea caused by pathogens such as *Shigella*, *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter jejuni* and *Clostridium difficile*, fecal leukocytes can be found in large numbers. The Fecal Lactoferrin test detects elevated levels of lactoferrin released from fecal leukocytes as a marker of intestinal inflammation.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Microbiology

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-5866

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours; test performed 0700-1500

**Turnaround Time:** 24 Hours

**Special Instructions:** Requisition must state specific date/time of collection

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Random stool

**Container:** Plastic, clean, airtight, leak-proof container

**Volume:** 1-2 mL of liquid stool or 1 gram semi-solid stool

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| <b>Collection:</b>       | Collect fresh stool in a clean, dry bedpan or on a newspaper over the toilet and transfer to a plastic, leak-proof container.<br><br>Pediatric patients with severe diarrhea may use a U-bag collection system. Place the bag over the anal area in an attempt to retrieve the specimen before it soaks into the diaper. The diaper can also be reversed with the plastic side toward the skin to prevent the specimen from soaking into the diaper. Transfer specimen into a plastic, leak-proof container. |
| <b>Storage/Transport</b> | Specimen may be stored refrigerated, at room temp or frozen.   |
| <b>Sample Rejection:</b> | Stool exceeding 2 weeks old. No diapers accepted. Specimens collected in Carey-Blair, formalin or Zinc-PVA. Any stool sample other than fresh stool. Improperly labeled specimens, leaking containers, insufficient volume.  |

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### ***Interpretive***

**Reference Range:** Negative

**Limitations:** Fecal samples from breast fed infants should not be tested.

The LEUKO EZ VUE® test detects elevated levels of lactoferrin released from fecal leukocytes as a marker of intestinal inflammation. The test may not be appropriate in immunocompromised persons.

Other types of clinical specimens have not been evaluated for detecting leukocytes.

The intensity of a positive sample does not indicate the amount of lactoferrin or severity of disease.

**Methodology:** Alere/TECHLAB LEUKO EZ VUE

**References:** TechLab™ Leuko EZ Vue Product Insert. TechLab™ Blacksburg, VA 24060-6358 07/2016

Guerrant, R. L. 1992 Measurement of fecal lactoferrin as a marker of fecal leukocytes. J. ClinMicrobiol. 30:1238-1242