Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: OVA AND PARASITE EXAM, ASPIRATED SPECIMEN

General Information

Lab Order Codes: OAP

Synonyms: Duodenal aspirate for Ova and Parasites; O & P Exam, duodenal aspirate; O & P Exam, sputum; O & P Exam, urine; Schistosoma Exam, urine

CPT Codes: 87177 – Ova and parasites, direct smears, concentration and identification
388312 – Special stains; Group I for microorganisms, each

Test Includes: Examination of aspirate for intestinal parasites by direct/concentrated microscopic exam and trichrome stain. If only Cryptosporidium or Giardia lamblia are requested. Refer to specific listing for Cryptosporidium/Giardia FA.

Logistics

Lab Testing Sections: Microbiology

Phone Numbers:
MIN Lab: 612-813-5866
STP Lab: 651-220-6555

Test Availability: Daily, test performed 0700 – 1500

Turnaround Time: 1 - 2 days

Special Instructions:
- Specimen site and date/time of collection are required for specimen processing.
- Indicate travel history, clinical diagnosis or parasite suspected on requisition.

Warning: Aspirated specimens collected from a patient infected with parasites are highly infectious. Use extreme caution when Entamoeba histolytica, Hymenolepis nana, and Taenia sp. are suspected.

Specimen

Specimen Type:
Aspirate of cyst or abscess, duodenal aspirate, mid-day urine, sigmoid aspirate, or sputum
Container: Sterile, leakproof container

Volume: 3 - 4 mL aspirate, 1-3 mL sputum or entire mid-day urine collection with last voided portion containing blood and mucus.

Collection:

Duodenal Aspirate:

Onsite collections ONLY:
1. Specimen is obtained by use of a gastroduodenal tube or a fiberoptic endoscopy study, either by direct aspiration or into a trap.
2. Place aspirate into a sterile leakproof container.
3. Transport directly to the laboratory (≤15 minutes) since specimens must be examined within 1 hour of collection.

Sigmoidoscopy:

Onsite collections ONLY:
1. Perform flexible or rigid sigmoidoscopy.
2. Aspirate liquid from the inflamed bowel with a pipette passed through the sigmoidoscope.
3. Place aspirate into a leakproof container.
4. Transport directly to the laboratory (≤15 min) since specimens must be examined within 1 hour of collection.

Sputum (Expectorate):

Onsite collections ONLY:
1. Collect early morning specimen under the direct supervision of a nurse or a physician.
2. Have patient rinse or gargle with water to remove superficial flora.
3. Instruct patient to cough deeply to produce a lower respiratory specimen.
4. Exam specimen to make sure it contains thick mucus. Do not submit saliva.
5. Transport directly to the laboratory (≤15 min) since specimens must be examined within 1 hour of collection.

Urine:

Onsite collections ONLY:
1. Collect mid-day urine specimen in a sterile container. Peak egg excretion occurs between noon and 3 p.m.
2. For patients with hematuria, eggs are associated with the terminal (last voided) portion of the specimen containing blood and mucus.
3. Transport directly to the laboratory (≤15 min) since specimens must be examined within 1 hour of collection.

Transport/Storage: Transport to the Microbiology Laboratory immediately at room temperature. Do not refrigerate specimen. Refrigeration inhibits the motility of certain parasites.
Sample Rejection: Specimen with a transit time exceeding 1 hour after collection; specimen not submitted in appropriate transport container; improperly labeled specimen; insufficient volume; external contamination. If an unacceptable specimen is received, the physician or nursing station will be notified and another specimen will be requested before the specimen is discarded.

Interpretive

Reference Range: No ova or parasites seen.

Limitations: This procedure does not detect Cryptosporidium parvum. Refer to the specific listing for Cryptosporidium/Giardia FA.

Methodology: Concentrated microscopic exam and trichrome stain

References:


Updates: 11/20/2014: Onsite collections ONLY