Lab Dept: **Serology**  
**Test Name:** **E. HISTOLYTICA ANTIBODY**

### General Information

**Lab Order Codes:** EHAB  
**Synonyms:** E. Histolytica Antibody, Serum; Entamoeba; Amebic Serology; Amebiasis  
**CPT Codes:** 86753 – Antibody; protozoa, not elsewhere specified  
**Test Includes:** Testing for E. Histolytica Antibody reported as positive or negative.

### Logistics

**Test Indications:** As an adjunct in the diagnosis of extraintestinal amebiasis, especially liver abscess. Serology may be particularly useful in supporting the diagnosis of amebic liver abscess in patients without a definite history of intestinal amebiasis and who have not spent substantial periods of time in endemic areas.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Serology - Sendouts  
**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test: SAM)  
**Phone Numbers:**  
- MIN Lab: 612-813-6280  
- STP Lab: 651-220-6550  
**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours  
**Turnaround Time:** 1 - 7 days; test set up Tuesday and Thursday  
**Special Instructions:** N/A

### Specimen

**Specimen Type:** Blood  
**Container:** SST (Gold, marble or red)  
**Draw Volume:** 1.5 mL (Minimum: 0.6 mL) blood
**Processed Volume:** 0.5 mL (Minimum: 0.2 mL) serum

**Collection:** Routine blood collection

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot and freeze in a screw-capped, round bottom plastic vial. Ship frozen. Forward promptly.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Specimens other than serum; specimens received at ambient temperatures; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis; gross lipemia

---

**Interpretive**

**Reference Range:** Negative

A positive enzyme-linked immunosorbent (ELISA) suggests current or previous infection with *Entamoeba histolytica*.

Since pathogenic and nonpathogenic species of entamoeba cannot be differentiated microscopically, some authorities believe a positive serology indicates the presence of the pathogenic species (ie, *E. histolytica*).

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** Previous episodes of intestinal amebiasis may produce a positive serology.

Serologic results should be used as an aid in diagnosis and should not be interpreted as diagnostic by themselves.

Direct detection of *Entamoeba histolytica* in stool specimens is recommended to diagnose intestinal amebiasis.

**Methodology:** Enzyme-Linked Immunoabsorbent Assay (ELISA)

**References:** Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page January 2018

**Updates:**

4/1/2010: MML will no longer perform titers on positive samples due to a change in kit design.

7/15/2010: Storage temp moved from frozen to refrigerated.

7/25/2013: Storage temp moved from refrigerated to frozen.

1/17/2018: Collection container update.