

## Cryptosporidium and Giardia Antigen



<b>Alternate Name:</b>	Cryptosporidium / Giardia Antigen
<b>Performing Lab:</b>	New Hanover
<b>Specimen Container:</b>	A stool specimen is to be collected in a clean, leak-proof plastic container. Patient samples collected in an acceptable transport media are the preferred specimens. Freshly collected stool specimens are to be placed into a transport medium / preservative within 30 minutes of collection.
<b>Minimum Volume Required:</b>	1.0 mL
<b>Testing Availability</b>	<b>Routine:</b> Performed in batch testing daily <b>Stat:</b> No
<b>Turnaround Time:</b>	24 hours
<b>Special Handling:</b>	Fresh specimens must be delivered to the laboratory within 30 minutes of collection. Specimens placed in transport medium must be delivered to the laboratory within 24 hours.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Specimen Stability:</b>	See above
<b>Reference Range:</b>	Negative for Cryptosporidium / Giardia antigen
<b>Critical Value:</b>	None
<b>CPT Code:</b>	87328
<b>Testing Methodology:</b>	Qualitative Immunochromatogenic Assay
<b>Causes for Specimen Rejection:</b>	Improper labeling. Specimen container must not be contaminated on the outside. Specimens delivered outside acceptable timeframe.

**Other Comments:**

**Clinical Significance:**

Qualitative detection of Cryptosporidium-specific antigen (CSA) in aqueous extracts of fecal specimens. CSA is produced by the Cryptosporidium as they multiply within the host intestinal tract.

Cryptosporidium is a small intestinal parasite that commonly causes infection in immunocompromised patients.

Rapid detection of Giardia lamblia; establish the diagnosis of parasitic infection