

New Test Announcement



Lactoferrin, Stool Methodology Change, Effective 12/22/09

Effective 12/22/09, St. Luke's laboratory will begin using a rapid qualitative test (LEUKO EZ VUE) to detect elevated lactoferrin as a marker for fecal leukocytes and an indicator of intestinal inflammation.

Lactoferrin must be requested, it is not part of a stool culture.

This test detects lactoferrin in liquid, semi-solid and solid fecal specimens. Because of fecal lactoferrin stability, this test is more accommodating to the patient than the current methylene blue stool WBC stain procedure, requiring the specimen be less than 2 hours old. Our lab will no longer be performing the stool WBC methylene blue stain.

Lactoferrin, stool will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Specimens must be unpreserved. Transport media or fixatives **cannot** be used. Specimens can be stored refrigerated or at room temperature for up to two weeks from time of collection.

If ordered as "LACTOFERRINST" or "Lactoferrin Stool Leukocyte," the question, "reflex to culture if positive? Y or N" will be asked.

If a stool culture, "CSTOOL" or "Culture stool," is ordered, you will see a pop up box stating, "Stool WBC is no longer performed as part of stool culture, please order a Lactoferrin if indicated."

Sample requirements:

- Stool Lactoferrin: send unpreserved stool sample, stable 14 days at room temp or refrigerated.
- Stool Culture: send stool specimen at room temperature, within two hours of collection **or**
- Stool Culture: inoculate stool into C&S media, stable for 96 hours room temperature.

If you have questions, please contact K. Warren, M.D. (218)249-5208, Microbiology Medical Director or Deb Fischer, MT(ASCP) (218) 249-55319, Microbiology Technical Specialist.

St. Luke's Laboratory Services has recently developed a Web page which contains New Test Announcements.

<http://www.slhduluth.com/hospital/laboratory-services/>