

# Ova and Parasite Exam



## Ova and Parasite Examinations

**Effective June 19, 2017 St. Luke's Laboratory will send all specimens with requests for comprehensive Ova and Parasite examinations to Mayo Clinic Laboratories.**

This new reference test is analogous to the old Ova/Parasite Complete Exam and includes detection of parasitic protozoa as well as detection of eggs and larvae of parasitic helminths. This change is being made in an effort to streamline our reference testing and reduce cost. In addition, a new testing algorithm has been implemented to reduce unnecessary ova and parasite testing in patients who lack significant exposure history or risk factors. When ordering this test, providers will be prompted to indicate which of three risk factors is presented by the patient in order to proceed with the ordering process. The risk factors include the following: the patient is a resident or visitor to a developing country, a resident of an area of North America where helminth infections are endemic, or, possible roundworm or tapeworm segments have been observed in the patient's stool.

\*Please note: This test does not include detection of Cryptosporidium or Giardia. If suspected, order Giardia/Cryptosporidium Antigen, Feces (OANDP) instead.

### **Sample Type:**

- Stool specimen submitted in **ECOFIX** preservative within 2 hours of collection (A minimum of 3 specimens, each collected more than 24 hours apart, over a 10-day period is recommended).
- Respiratory or Tissue specimens submitted in a sterile container.

**Test Name:** PARASITIC EXAMINATION (Test Code: OAP)

If you have questions, please contact St. Luke's Microbiology Laboratory at 218-249-5319 or Dr. Jon Steinhauer at 218-249-5749.