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## Des Moines Laboratory

**Date: March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

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### **Basic OP (Crypto/Giardia Ag):**

As MercyOne is transitioning to the GI Panel by PCR, we will retain the Basic OP, Cryptosporidium Antigen, and Giardia Antigen test in house.

### **CPT Codes:**

- Cryptosporidium Antigen (87327)
- Giardia Antigen (87269)
- Ova Parasite Panel (87329, 87328)

**Testing Supplies (w/Supply Number):** Available on the supply portal.

- Orange Cap Cary-Blair container **543016**.
- Black Cap Ova & Parasite Vial container **543017**.

**Collection Instructions:** The preferred collection container for Basic OP (Crypto/Giardia Ag) is now orange stool collection container (part number 543016) and it must be refrigerated. Expanded OP send outs remains to be collected in the black stool container (part number 543017).

Transfer the specimen to an Orange stool collection container (part number 543016) within 2 hours of collection. Using the collection spoon attached to the cap, add specimen until the liquid reaches the red line. Do not overfill the container past the red line. Refrigerate after collection. Swabs will not be acceptable.

**Stability:** Specimens are kept a week, however add on of PCR is acceptable for 4 days after collection.

### **Stool Culture Panel and GI Panel:**

Due to issues with the coverage of diagnosis codes under our current GI Panel, effective Monday March 11<sup>th</sup>, we have made the decision to reinstate the Stool Culture Panel as an orderable test. This reinstatement will remain in effect until we implement a revised GI Panel that ensures payer coverage over a broader range of diagnosis codes.

It's important to note that while we are bringing back the Stool Culture Panel, the GI Panel will still remain orderable for those cases who remain appropriate.

Thank you for choosing MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory.