



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
TEST INFORMATION**

Section: Parasitology

Test Name: Entamoeba histolytica Antigen

Test Includes: <i>E. histolytica</i> Antigen EIA	
<i>Reporting</i>	
Results Available: Monday - Friday	Contact Number: (650) 573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
Method: Enzyme ImmunoAssay for detection of adhesin of <i>E. histolytica</i>	
Turnaround Time: 3-4 days	Reference Range: No <i>E. histolytica</i> adhesin is present.
Limitations: Specimens should be tested within 24 hrs. If not, they may be frozen at -20 C. However, freezing and thawing may degrade adhesin. Weak reactions may occur due to presence of binding substances or inactivating enzymes in feces. In this case a fresh specimen should be tested.	Interpretation: Negative result indicates that patient does not have antigen to <i>E. histolytica</i> adhesin antigen. Positive result indicates that patient has <i>E. histolytica</i> adhesin antigen.
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
Specimen Collection: Clean upright container without preservative from patients with diarrhea or dysentery.	Sample Type: Fresh stool Do not use stools that are collected or stored in 10% formalin, sodium acetate or polyvinyl alcohol fixatives.
Volume/Amount Required: >3 ml for liquid stools or 3 g for semisolid or solid stool.	Preferred Specimen: Fresh stool <24 hrs old.
Collection/Preservation: Collect stool during acute or symptomatic phase of illness.	Storage Instructions: Store at 2-8° C and test within 24 hrs. If cannot test within 48 hrs, store at -20° C.
Causes for Rejection: Stools collected in preservatives or delivered to lab >24 hrs.	Sample Container: Clean upright container without preservatives.
Sample Test Kit:	Availability: Test performed Mon, Wed, Fri.
Diagnostic Information: Test detects the adhesin antigen of <i>E. histolytica</i> in human fecal specimens. It can be used for routine clinical testing from adults or children. Conventional microscopy is not a prerequisite for use of the test.	
<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
Request Form: Standard clinical test request form or through computer interface.	Specimen Handling: Body fluids handled using universal precautions.
Transport Temperature: Room temp if transport within 24 hrs. Refrigerate if transport within 48 hrs.	Shipping Requirements: Deliver within 24 hrs of collection for optimal results.
<i>Billing</i>	
CPT Code(s): 87336	Fees: \$15.00



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Effective Date: June 1, 2009	
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