

TO: Medical Staff

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Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: Discontinuing Parasite and Bacterial Pathogen Detection by PCR

To streamline diagnostic testing for enteric pathogens, the Parasite Stool Pathogen Detection by PCR and Bacteria Stool Pathogen Detection by PCR will be discontinued on 6/7/23. All of the pathogens detected by these two panels are included in the Gastrointestinal Pathogen Direct Testing.

Discontinued tests:

- Parasite Stool Pathogen Detection by PCR
- Bacteria Stool Pathogen Detection by PCR

Replacement Test: Gastrointestinal Pathogen Direct Testing

- Turn-around-time: 4hrs from receipt in the laboratory
- If *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, or *Vibrio* spp. are detected by PCR, the specimen will reflex to culture for susceptibility testing.
- Visit the Department of Pathology Laboratory Services Catalog for a complete list of the pathogens detected by this PCR panel:
<https://pathcat.vcu.edu/#!/details/571288812>

Collection Kit: Stool collection kit (green, yellow, and white top)



For questions contact Dr. Doern and Dr. Bryson at christopher.doern@vcuhealth.org and alexandra.bryson@vcuhealth.org.

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