

ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: April 12, 2011

Dear Valued Client:

Foundation Laboratory is pleased to announce that effective December 7, 2011 Stool Helicobacter Pylori Antigen will be performed in-house.

Colonization of human gastric mucosa with H. Pylori potentially leads to chronic gastritis and peptic ulcer disease. In addition, this bacterium has been identified as a risk factor for the development of mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma and gastric carcinoma in younger patients with dyspeptic symptoms, a test for H. Pylori is recommended prior to therapy. The gold standard for the diagnosis of H. Pylori infection is growth of the pathogen in cultures, thus requiring gastric biopsy specimens obtained by invasive upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, therefore, non-invasive tests are of major importance for evaluation of the patient's status regarding infection by H. Pylori in adult patients, the C-urea breath test (UBT) has excellent sensitivity and specificity. This method requires trained staff for air sampling and expensive equipments such as an isotope ratio mass spectrometer or infrared-isotope ratio spectrometer. According to a comparison of UTB with stool antigen test by Vincens Weingart et al J Clin Microbiol. 2004 March; 42(3): 1319-1321 pathogen specific stool antigen tests are a valid alternative to the UBT for non-invasive detection of H. pylori.

Foundation Laboratory uses a polyclonal anti H. Pylori antibody test by ELISA to detect H. Pylori organism in stool.

Specimen Requirements:

- Minimum 1 cup of stool
- Refrigerated

Turn Around Time:

- 4 days

For supplies and other needs please contact your Foundation Laboratory representative.

Sincerely,

Reza M. Massoumi, Ph.D.

Laboratory Manager