



Memorandum: Micro #201

To: UNCMC and Hillsborough Attending and Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads, and Supervisors

From: *MBM* Melissa B. Miller, PhD, Director, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory

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Date: October 28, 2021

Subject: Changes to Stool Comprehensive Ova and Parasite Exam

Effective November 1, 2021, the UNC Medical Center Clinical Microbiology Laboratory will no longer perform Stool Comprehensive Ova and Parasite Exam (LAB258) in house. The test will be sent to Mayo Clinical Laboratories. This decision is based on staffing constraints, combined with low test volume. There are no changes to the acceptability criteria nor to collection methods. Additional test information is available here:

<https://www.mayocliniclabs.com/test-catalog/Overview/9216>

<https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/mclendon-clinical-laboratories/available-tests/comp-ova-and-para-exam/>

The most common stool parasites, *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*, should be diagnosed by ordering the GI Pathogen Panel (LAB6053), which is still performed in house. Details for the GI Pathogen Panel are available here:

<https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/mclendon-clinical-laboratories/available-tests/gi-pathogen-panel/>

Questions can be directed to the Special Microbiology Lab (984-974-6273) or Dr. Melissa Miller at Melissa.Miller@unchealth.unc.edu.