

Laboratory Update

The full 23-target Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel [LAB1901] is not covered by CMS in the ambulatory clinic setting, which has led to reimbursement challenges across the system.

To address this, we've developed alternative GI panels that include target volumes aligned with CMS coverage criteria and a broader range of diagnosis codes. These panels are designed to support appropriate testing while improving payer coverage and reducing denials.

Since EPIC implementation, we've seen a noticeable increase in [LAB1901] ordering. To help ensure compliance and optimize reimbursement, we recommend clinic providers add the following CMS-aligned panels to their EPIC favorites:

- **LAB10037:** Gastrointestinal Parasite Panel by PCR
- **LAB10886:** Gastrointestinal Bacteria Panel by PCR
- **LAB10036:** Gastrointestinal Virus Panel by PCR
- **LAB8031:** Gastrointestinal Extended Bacteria Panel by PCR

Using these panels in place of [LAB1901] in ambulatory settings will help ensure diagnostic accuracy while supporting sustainable billing practices.

Gastrointestinal Panels

Test: Gastrointestinal Parasite Panel by PCR

Includes: *Giardia lamblia*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Entamoeba histolytica*, *Cyclospora cayetanensis*

Test Code: LAB10037

CPT Code: 87505

Client List Price: \$142.00

Note: [ENTERIC PARASITES, MOLECULAR STUDY - Des Moines Laboratory](#)

Test: Gastrointestinal Bacteria Panel by PCR

Includes: *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter* (*C. jejuni*/*C. coli*/*C. upsaliensis*), *Shigella*/Enteroinvasive *Escherichia coli* (EIEC), Shiga-like toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*

(STEC) *stx1/stx2* (including specific identification of the *E. coli* O157 serogroup within STEC)

Test Code: LAB10886

CPT Code: 87505

Client List Price: \$142.00

Note: [GI BACTERIA PCR MOLECULAR STUDY - Des Moines Laboratory](#)

Test: Gastrointestinal Extended Bacteria Panel by PCR

Includes: *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter* (*C. jejuni*/*C. coli*/*C. upsaliensis*), *Shigella*/Enteroinvasive *Escherichia coli* (EIEC), Shiga-like toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) *stx1/stx2* (including specific identification of the *E. coli* O157 serogroup within STEC), *Plesiomonas shigelloides*, *Vibrio* (*V. parahaemolyticus*/*V. vulnificus*/ *V. cholerae*), including specific identification of *Vibrio cholerae*, *Yersinia enterocolitica*, *E. coli* (ETEC)

Test Code: LAB8031

CPT Code: 87506

Client List Price: \$265.00

Note: [GI PCR PANEL EXTENDED - Des Moines Laboratory](#)

Test: Gastrointestinal Virus Panel by PCR

Includes: *Adenovirus F40/41*, *Astrovirus*, *Norovirus GI/GII*, *Rotavirus A*, *Sapovirus* (Genogroups I, II, IV, and V)

Test Code: LAB10036

CPT Code: 87505

Client List Price: \$142.00

Note: [ENTERIC VIRAL PATHOGENS, MOLECULAR STUDY - Des Moines Laboratory](#)

Each GI Panel shares the same information listed below;

- **Performing Laboratory:** MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory
- **Acceptable Specimens:** Cary Blair and Sterile Container
- **Minimum Volume:** >200 µl
- **Stability:** Room Temp 4 days, Refrigerated 4 days

Additional information on CMS payable codes can be found on the CMS website.

[Article - Billing and Coding: MolDX: Molecular Syndromic Panels for Infectious Disease Pathogen Identification Testing \(A58761\)](#)

CPT Codes Changes:

Lab	CPT	Insurance Price
Ethanol [LAB46]	82077	\$42.02
Acetaminophen Level [LAB43]	80307	\$65.10
Salicylate Level [LAB34]	80307	\$63.37

*For client prices, please visit our client portal. [MercyOne Client Portal](#)