MERCYONE

Laboratory Update

November 19, 2026

Measles (Rubeola) Test Code Reminder

We are seeing an increase in Measles occurrence within our communities and the search for Measles testing is increasing. When searching for the **Measles IgG Titer** test in the Lab Directory, please note that the test currently appears as **Rubeola Antibody IgG [LAB657]** rather than "Measles". Please be aware that the test does not include "Measles" in the name.

For additional test information, please visit this link: Lab Directory

Alternative Collection Kits for Ova & Parasite (O&P) Testing

Due to manufacturer's backorder of the Black-Top Stool Preservative Vial, we are temporarily transitioning to alternative collection containers for stool Ova and Parasite (O&P) testing.

This change affects two stool testing options:

- **[LAB1319] Basic O&P - Cryptosporidium/Giardia Antigen:** Specimens may be collected using a Cary Blair transport vial (orange or green vial)
- **[LAB4645] Complete O&P, Concentrate and Permanent Smear:** Specimens should now be collected using the PVA/Formalin two-vial collection kit (pink and light blue vials)

To support continued Complete O&P testing, we have ordered the Polyvinyl Alcohol (PVA) and 10% Formalin collection kits and will include an instructional flyer with each shipment of kits. For the Complete O&P examination, both collection vials must be used (PVA/Formalin). As with the previously supplied Total-Fix preservative, stool should be added to each container up to the red fill line within 30 minutes of collection to ensure specimen quality and optimal test performance.

We appreciate your flexibility during this temporary supply disruption. Testing availability and turnaround times are not expected to be impacted. If you have questions regarding specimen collection requirements or ordering supplies, please contact the laboratory.

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Thanksgiving Holiday Service Update

In observance of Thanksgiving Day, all Patient Service Centers (PSCs) will be closed for the holiday on Thursday, November 26, 2026.

Due to the holiday, courier services and specimen pickup schedules may be limited. If your location requires specimen pickups during the holiday, please complete the form below and provide your holiday hours. If you oversee multiple locations, please submit one response and include the hours for each location. If no pickup is needed, please still fill out the following form so we can update our team accordingly.

MercyOne Holiday Courier Pick-ups

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Customer Service/Call Center team at 515-247-4439. Our Call Center will remain open and available all day to assist with any unexpected service needs.

We appreciate your partnership and understanding as we adjust services for the holiday. Thank you for helping us ensure timely specimen collection and continued support for your patients.