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Commentary

Lab Comments
Partial panel ordered. 06/26/07 PE

Commentary is provided to the practitioner for educational purposes, and should not be interpreted as diagnostic or treatment recommendations. Diagnosis and treatment decisions are the responsibility of the practitioner.
Sufficient amounts of Bifidobacteria and E. coli appear to be present in the stool, however Lactobacilli is below optimal levels. Ample amounts of E. coli have been associated with a balanced gut flora. The "friendly bacteria", Lactobacilli and Bifidobacteria, are important for gastrointestinal function, as they are involved in vitamin synthesis, natural antibiotic production, immune defense, digestion, detoxification of pro-carcinogens and a host of other activities. Ideally, levels of Lactobacillus and E. coli should be 2+ or greater. Bifidobacteria being a predominate anaerobe should be recovered at levels of 4+.

HpSA (Helicobacter pylori stool antigen): Helicobacter pylori is a bacterium which causes peptic ulcer disease and plays a role in the development of gastric cancer. Direct stool testing of the antigen (HpSA) is highly accurate and is appropriate for diagnosis and follow-up of infection.
**Blastocystis hominis**: Many
**Dientamoeba fragilis**: Moderate Trophozoites

**Methodologies used for the Ova & Parasites examination** are sedimentation concentration of specimens followed by analysis by iodine wet mount and Trichrome stain permanent smear.

**Parasitology EIA Tests**

<table>
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<th>Outside</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Giardia lamblia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entamoeba histolytica/dispar</td>
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**Specimen Tested**: Stool

Representative photograph of organism(s)

Blastocystis hominis

Dientamoeba fragilis trophozoites
Commentary

Reported quantitation values were derived from a concentration of the sample(s) submitted and represent an "average" value.

Lab Comments
Partial panel ordered. 06/26/07 PE

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Blastocystis hominis is considered by most authorities to be a pathogen. Transmission is fecal/oral, usually through contact with contaminated food or water. Blastocystis often lodges in the intestinal mucosa, making eradication difficult. Symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, sleeplessness, lassitude, anorexia, pruritis, irritable bowel or fever, although asymptomatic infections can occur. It has also been reported in association with many chronic conditions including chronic fatigue and reactive arthritis. Three forms have been identified, with the vacuolated form being the most frequently seen in fecal specimens.

Dientamoeba fragilis is a pathogenic flagellate. Transmission is by direct ingestion of the trophozoite, via contaminated water. The organism usually resides in the cecum and proximal colon. Symptoms may include diarrhea, abdominal tenderness, weight loss, fatigue, blood in the stool and eosinophilia, although asymptomatic infections can occur.