WVUM Laboratory Testing for Gastrointestinal Pathogens

No diarrhea

Community-acquired diarrhea

- <7 days duration, and
- mild, non-bloody, and
- without systemic signs or complications

- >7 days duration, or
- moderate/severe/bloody, or
- fever, dehydration, systemic signs or complications, or
- travel history/known exposure

Testing generally NOT indicated

Healthcare-associated diarrhea*

- ≥3 days hospitalization, or
- long-term care resident, or
- frequent healthcare encounters, or
- antimicrobial exposure in prior 60 days

GI PANEL BY BIOFIRE FILM ARRAY
[LAB123242]

CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE TOXIN DETECTION
[LAB253]

Negative

Positive

Negative

Reassess clinically, consider alternate infectious etiology and need for specialized testing

Reassess clinically, consider non-infectious etiology or need for additional testing

Risk Factor(s) for GI Parasite?

- AIDS
- ≤5 years of age
- camper/backpacker
- contact with farm animals

Most common pathogens already excluded by testing algorithm above
If symptoms persist, consider:
- less common infectious etiologies, or
- ova and parasite exam

OVA AND PARASITE SCREEN
[LAB258]

ORGANISM IDENTIFICATION
[LAB304613]

Negative

Positive

Negative

Consider obtaining additional stool specimens for parasite examination or repeating the algorithm if diarrhea persists

No further testing indicated

If symptoms persist, consider:
- submission of additional material
- ova and parasite exam

Negative

Positive

Negative

*Patients with ileus and/or megacolon at risk for pseudomembranous colitis may NOT experience diarrhea despite need for C. difficile testing