Excellence in Pathology and Laboratory Services

Test Update

From Your Laboratory Service Provider, PathGroup Labs

Testing Provided on Site for Fecal Immunochemical Testing

Samuel Smith, MD Lab Director / Jeff Johnson, Clinical Operations Manager

This change will take effect September 27, 2010

Overview and Clinical Utility:
Effective September 27, 2010, PathGroup Labs will begin performing Fecal Immunochemical Testing (FIT testing) in-house. This screening test is useful for the determination of lower gastrointestinal bleeding found in many GI disorders such as colitis, polyps, and colorectal cancer. Conventional test methods used for the detection of fecal occult blood will be phased out as recommended by the American College of Gastroenterology (*American Journal of Gastroenterology; American College of Gastroenterology Guidelines for Colorectal Cancer Screening 2008; Online publication February 24, 2009.*) Immunological testing detects only human hemoglobin and does not require special dietary or medical restrictions. Additionally, immunological testing requires a single stool specimen versus 3 separate stool specimens required in conventional fecal occult blood testing. The ACG sites FIT testing as the preferred cancer detection test as a result of the superior performance coupled with improved patient adherence.

Test Methodology: Fecal Immunochemical Testing is an immunoassay employing latex fixation methodology. Antibody to human hemoglobin attached to latex particles are added to stool. Any human hemoglobin present in the stool specimen will cause an antigen/antibody reaction and the agglutination of the particles. This agglutination is measured as an optical change. Testing will be performed on the Polymedco OC-Auto Micro 80 analyzer. Testing is not for use in urine, gastric specimens, or other body fluids.

Ordering:

Test Code:	Test Name:	CPT:	LOINC:
FIT	*Fecal Globulin by Immunochemistry*	**82274**	**29771-3**

Specimen Collection, Storage, and Transport:

1) Specimen collection paper, sample bottles, and collection instructions may be requested through the Purchasing/Supply Department at PathGroup Labs.
2) Stability of specimen within the sampling bottle:
   a) When stored at ambient temperature, 15 days.
   b) When stored at 2-8°C, 30 days.
3) Sample bottles may be shipped ambient or refrigerated.

Test Performed:
Monday through Friday

Turnaround time:
24 hours

For further questions, please contact Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 1-888-474-5227.