



Comprehensive Parasitology Profile

The **Comprehensive Parasitology Profile** is a thorough analysis to detect the presence of intestinal parasites, as well as beneficial intestinal microflora, imbalanced flora, and bacterial or fungal possible pathogens. This stool test can help reveal hidden causes behind acute or chronic conditions that develop from parasitic infection or dysbiosis.

• **Analytes:**

Comprehensive Parasitology–
Faecal bacterial and yeast cultures
Sensitivities as appropriate
Microscopic parasite exam
EIA for *E. histolytica*,
Giardia and *Cryptosporidium*,
Campylobacter Specific Antigen,
Enterohemorrhagic
Escherichiacoli,
Shiga-like toxin
Parasitology–Faecal microscopic
exam, with EIA for *Giardia*,
Cryptosporidium,
E. histolytica

• **Specimen Requirements:**

Comprehensive Parasitology–
5cc random stool, purge or swab
in each vial (SAF, Cary/Blair);
Parasitology–5cc random stool,
purge, or swab in each vial (SAF)

• **Before Taking this Test:**

- Avoid anti- or pro-biotics,
laxatives, and anti-diarrhoeals
(for 3 days)
- Avoid or reduce anti-
inflammatories,
digestive enzymes and most
pain relievers (for 2 days)
- See instructions inside test kit
for details

• **Turn-Around Time:**

14 Days

Susceptibility to Parasite Infection:

It is generally assumed that travel to a Third World country or the occasional camping trip are prerequisites for acquiring a parasite infection. Owing to a combination of extensive worldwide travel and other sources of easy transmission, anyone is now susceptible. Diarrhoeal diseases, in fact, (bacterial as well as parasitic) constitute the greatest worldwide cause of morbidity and mortality.

Pathogenicity:

Various organisms are increasingly recognized for their potential pathogenicity. For example:

- ***Giardia lamblia*** is the leading cause of intestinal parasitic infection in the United Kingdom. Only a few decades ago it was not considered pathogenic.
- ***Cryptosporidium***, a well-known pathogen in animals, was only recently identified as a human pathogen.
- ***Blastocystis hominis*** is the most frequently observed faecal parasite. Its level of pathogenicity continues to be controversial. Pathogenicity, in general, appears to vary depending on the parasite itself, host susceptibility, and the microbiological environment in which the parasite lives.

Symptoms of Infection:

The **most common symptoms** of parasite infection are **diarrhoea** and **abdominal pain**. Other symptoms may include flatulence, anorexia, weight loss, fevers, chills, blood or mucus in the stool, and fatigue.

Systemic Complaints:

We generally think of parasite infection as causing acute gastrointestinal symptoms. An increasing number of parasite cases feature **systemic complaints** not traditionally associated with parasites, such as:

- Urticaria
- Reactive arthritis
- Chronic fatigue, asthma and constipation in individuals who are immunocompromised or whose intestinal flora is chronically imbalanced.

Diagnosing Parasitic Infections:

The diagnosis of parasitic infections depends on the laboratory, with detection rates dramatically increasing with more sophisticated procedures.

Healthibeing's Comprehensive Parasitology Profile uses the most technologically advanced procedures to accurately identify a wide range of protozoal parasites, including amoebae, flagellates, ciliates, coccidia and microsporidia.

Specimens are carefully analysed by highly-trained technicians using computer-enhanced microscopy, new staining procedures, and advanced immunoassay techniques. These accurate detection methods allow for increased detection rates, intensifying the awareness of the important relationship between parasitic infection and a broad spectrum of illnesses.

Comprehensive Parasitology

Microbiology

Bacteriology

Beneficial Bacteria

Lactobacillus species	*NG	
Escherichia coli		(4+)
Bifidobacterium		(4+)

Additional Bacteria

alpha haemolytic Streptococcus	NP		(4+)
gamma haemolytic Streptococcus	NP		(3+)
Citrobacter freundii	NP		(3+)

Mycology

*NG *NG

Additional Tests (if ordered)

Inside	Outside	Reference Range
Not Ordered	 	Negative
Campylobacter specific antigen		
Not Ordered	 	Negative
Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia Coli Shiga-like Toxin		

Human microflora is influenced by environmental factors and the competitive ecosystem of the organisms in the GI tract. Pathological significance should be based upon clinical symptoms and reproducibility of bacterial recovery.

Microbiology Legend

*NG	NP	PP	P
*NG	 	 	
No Growth	Non-Pathogen	Potential Pathogen	Pathogen

This test reveals important clinical information about:

- A broad range of parasite infection related to gastrointestinal and systemic conditions, identified by trichrome staining, computer-enhanced microscopy, and **Optimized Parasite Recovery techniques**
- Enhanced detection of *Giardia*, *Cryptosporidia*, and *Entamoeba histolytica* infection, by advanced **enzyme immunoassay (EIA)**
- Levels and types of yeast and bacteria cultured in the stool, including beneficial bacteria and imbalanced, possibly pathogenic, organisms

Commentary

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.

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