Parasitic Investigation of Stool Specimens Algorithm

Watery diarrhea in patients who:
- Have AIDS
- Are ≤5 years old (or contact)
- Are campers or backpackers
- Have contact with farm animals
- Are involved in outbreak
  - Drinking/Recreational water source
  - Day care center

Patient is:
- A resident or visitor to a developing country
- A resident or visitor to an area of North America where helminth (worm) infections have been reported with some frequency
- Possible roundworms or tapeworm segments are observed in stool/undergarments

Possible roundworms or tapeworm segments are identified in stool/undergarments and are available for submission to lab

POSITIVE
No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates

NEGATIVE

POSITIVE
No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates

NEGATIVE

POSITIVE
No additional testing required unless clinical picture indicates

NEGATIVE

MTBS / Microsporidia Detection Stain and/or CYCL / Cyclospora Species Detection Stain

If diarrhea persists

CRYPS / Cryptosporidium Antigen, Feces and GIAR / Giardia Antigen, Feces

POSITIVE

NEGATIVE

OAP / Parasitic Examination

If patient has diarrhea

PARID / Parasitic Identification

If intestinal parasites are still suspected, obtain at least 2 more stool specimens, collected on separate days over a 10 day period

Object submitted is not a parasite. Consider submitting additional specimens or evaluate for delusional parasitosis

* Two specimens should be tested for Giardia antigen to exclude a diagnosis of giardiasis