Microbiological Examination of Faeces for General Practice

Faecal Multiplex PCR detects the following range of pathogens:
Salmonella spp, Campylobacter spp, Shigella spp, Clostridium difficile, Yersinia spp, Listeria monocytogenes, enteroinvasive E.coli, Cryptosporidium spp, Giardia intestinalis, Entamoeba histolytica, Dientamoeba fragilis, Norovirus group 1, Norovirus group 11, Rotavirus A, Rotavirus B, Astrovirus, Enterovirus, Adenovirus and Adenovirus 40/41.

Due to the increased sensitivity of the faecal PCR test, particularly in relation to the parasites, multiple faecal samples are NOT required and are not tested.

Faeces Culture
Detects pathogens not covered by the PCR and enables the laboratory to provide an antibiotic susceptibility test when indicated.

When investigating a suspected enteric infection please request ‘Faeces MCS and PCR’.

Cysts, Ova and Parasites
When parasites such as Ascaris lumbricoides, hookworm, Trichurus trichuria, Strongyloides and other helminths are suspected, request ‘COP’ as these parasites are not included in the faecal PCR test.

Cysts, Ova and Parasites is the only faecal test that requires the submission of three specimens collected on consecutive days.

For further information, please contact the Microbiology Department on (02) 8382-9209.
Order a PCR with your Faecal MCS, giving you a faster and more accurate diagnosis than Faecal MCS alone.