



UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HOSPITAL

AN SCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Test Update Fecal Occult Blood (FOB)

On September 30, 2008, guaiac-based fecal occult blood testing using the Hemocult slides will be replaced with a new qualitative immunoassay. The new test will be done only in the Clinical Laboratory; Hemocult slides will be phased out across the entire organization.

This automated fecal occult blood test detects the presence of human hemoglobin by immunoassay using a photometric reading of the presence of an antibody-antigen complex. Immunochemicals in the FOB testing do not react with non-human hemoglobin or uncooked fruits and vegetables that may contain peroxidase activity that may generate false positive results with the guaiac-based test.

Historically, the guaiac method requires three consecutive samples to confirm negativity, whereas the FOB needs only one sample. A special specimen collection device is required for testing.

Test Code	FOB
Methodology	Immunoassay
Performed	Monday – Friday
Reported	Day shift, same day
Specimen Requirement	Stool collected in Polymedco collection device; Lawson number 19753 for collection device, Lawson number 53544 for “Personal Pack” send-home kits.
Unacceptable Specimen Transport	Do not send raw fecal material Routine courier pickup/pneumatic tube or via U.S. mail using send-home mailer
Stability	Store at room temperature up to 5 days
Unacceptable Conditions	Specimen collection more than 8 days prior to testing
Reference Interval:	Negative
CPT	82274

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Please contact Lorne Holland, MD., at 720-848-7050 or if you have any questions visit our website at <http://clinlab.uch.edu> for additional information.

Clinical Laboratory
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