Gastrointestinal profiles

3-day parasitology

Used To Assess
Presence or absence of parasitic infection

Clinical relevance
Symptoms of parasitic infections may include watery diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain and cramps, fatigue and weight loss.

Specimen requirements
Collection of stool specimen on 3 consecutive days.

Specimen collection method
Self-collection test kit

Complete digestive stool analysis (CDSA), levels 1-5

Used to assess
Overview of the components of digestion, absorption, intestinal function and microbial flora plus identification of pathogenic bacteria, parasites and yeasts

Clinical relevance
Poor digestive function and imbalanced gut flora may play a crucial role in the underlying cause of a number of health conditions. Symptoms such as constipation, diarrhoea, flatulence, bloating, abdominal discomfort, food sensitivities, headaches, fatigue and bad breath are all indicative of poor digestive function.

Specimen requirements
CDSA Levels 1-3 require one day stool collection. CDSA Levels 4 and 5 require stool collections on three consecutive days.

Specimen collection method
Self-collection test kit

Marker components of CDSA test levels 1-5

CDSA test level	Bacteriology	Mycology (yeasts)	Parasitology	3 day parasitology	Metabolic markers	Sensitivities (bacteria & yeasts)
CDSA level 1	✓	✓	✓			
CDSA level 2	✓	✓	✓		✓	
CDSA level 3	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
CDSA level 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CDSA level 5	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

Functional liver detoxification profile (FLDP)

Used to assess
Assesses Phase I and Phase II liver detoxification.

Clinical relevance
May provide valuable information in the management of patients who suffer from food allergies, multiple chemical sensitivities, chronic fatigue syndrome, “leaky gut” and hormonal imbalance e.g. premenstrual syndrome and menopausal symptoms.

Challenges and assesses the liver's Phase I and Phase II detoxification capacity with low doses of caffeine, aspirin and paracetamol. May be particularly useful in patients with food allergies, multiple chemical sensitivities, chronic fatigue syndrome, "leaky gut" or hormonal imbalance (e.g. premenstrual syndrome)

Specimen requirements
Urine and saliva.

Specimen collection method
Self-collection test kit

Intestinal permeability (IP)

Used to assess
Assesses gastrointestinal mucosal integrity ("leaky gut"). The IP is a challenge test using lactulose and mannitol.

Clinical relevance
The permeability of the gut wall may be affected by alcohol, caffeine, spices, medicines, environmental chemicals and stress.

Damage to the lining of the gastrointestinal tract is common in people with conditions such as food sensitivities and allergies, irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease, arthritis, Coeliac disease and dermatological conditions such as eczema, psoriasis and acne.

Specimen requirements
One urine specimen taken from a six-hour collection.

Specimen collection method
Self-collection test kit

Secretory IgA (sIgA)

Used to assess
Secretory IgA levels in saliva are thought to be representative of the functional status of the entire mucosal immune system.

Clinical relevance
Stress has a major impact on the output of secretory IgA and maintaining a high daily production is essential for an adaptive immune response. It is thought that sIgA may provide a link between gut-related health conditions and systemic illness and is usually associated with altered intestinal permeability.

Specimen requirements
One saliva specimen.

Specimen collection method
Self-collection test kit

Helicobacter pylori stool antigen (HpSA)

Used to assess
Assesses the presence or absence of Helicobacter pylori.

Clinical relevance
A non-invasive test which detects active infection. H.pylori infection may cause symptoms such as gastritis, halitosis, heart burn and abdominal cramping and is known to be a major cause of gastric ulcers.

Specimen requirements
One stool specimen is required.

Specimen collection method
Self-collected test kit