LABORATORY REPORT

Redcliffe labs

Patient NAME	: **Dummy**		
DOB/Age/Gender	:	Report STATUS	: Final Report
Patient ID / UHID	:	Barcode NO	:
Referred BY	:	Sample Type	: Stool
Sample Collected	:	Report Date	:

Culture Aerobic, Stool

NATURE OF SPECIMEN	STOOL
RESULT	NO PATHOGENIC ORGANISM GROWN AFTER 48 HOURS OF INCUBATION AT 37°C

Comment:

A Culture Aerobic, Stool test is a laboratory procedure used to detect and identify aerobic (oxygen-requiring) bacteria present in stool samples. This test helps diagnose bacterial infections of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, such as those caused by pathogenic bacteria like Salmonella, Shigella, and Campylobacter.

Purpose

1. Diagnose GI Infections: Helps in diagnosing bacterial infections in the gastrointestinal tract.
2. Identify Pathogens: Determines the specific bacteria causing the infection.
3. Guide Antibiotic Therapy: Assists in selecting appropriate antibiotic therapy based on the identified bacteria and their antibiotic susceptibility profiles.
4. Monitor Treatment: Used to monitor the effectiveness of ongoing treatment for GI infections.

Interpretation of Results

1. Positive Culture: Indicates the presence of pathogenic aerobic bacteria in the stool. The specific bacteria identified and their quantities can suggest infection. AST results guide the selection of antibiotics.
2. Negative Culture: No significant growth of pathogenic aerobic bacteria, suggesting that bacterial infection may not be present or that the infection may be due to viruses, parasites, or other non-bacterial pathogens.
3. Contamination: Sometimes, normal intestinal flora or contaminants can grow, which may not be clinically significant.

Clinical Significance

1. Common Pathogens: Includes Salmonella species, Shigella species, Campylobacter species, Escherichia coli (particularly pathogenic strains like E. coli O157 and Yersinia enterocolitica.
2. Clinical Correlation: Results should be correlated with clinical findings, such as symptoms of GI infection (diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever) and other diagnostic tests (stool ova and parasite examination, viral PCR) for accurate diagnosis and management.

Limitations

1. Anaerobic Bacteria: This test does not routinely detect anaerobic bacteria, which may also be present in GI infections. Special culture conditions are required for anaerobic pathogens.
2. Viruses and Parasites: It does not identify viral or parasitic pathogens. Separate tests, such as viral PCR or stool ova and parasite examination, are required for these organisms.
3. Sensitivity: Stool cultures may sometimes yield false-negative results, especially if the patient has already started antibiotic therapy before sample collection or if the sample is inadequate.

Follow-Up

1. Repeat Testing: May be necessary if the patient does not respond to treatment or if the clinical condition changes.
2. Additional Tests: Depending on the results, further microbiological, radiological, or clinical investigations may be warranted, such as stool ova and parasite examination, viral PCR, or imaging studies (e.g., abdominal ultrasound).

Additional Considerations

1. Clinical Presentation: Symptoms such as diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, and blood or mucus in the stool should prompt consideration of a stool culture.
2. Patient Preparation: Proper sample collection and handling are critical to avoid contamination and ensure accurate results. Patients should follow specific instructions provided by their healthcare provider.
3. Rapid Diagnostics: Other tests, such as stool antigen detection and molecular assays, can provide quicker preliminary information while awaiting culture results.

This test is essential for accurately diagnosing and managing bacterial gastrointestinal infections, ensuring effective treatment, and minimizing the development of complications.

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1. The presented findings in the Reports are intended solely for informational and interpretational purposes by the referring physician or other qualified medical professionals possessing a comprehensive understanding of reporting units, reference ranges, and technological limitations. The laboratory shall not be held liable for any interpretation or misinterpretation of the results, nor for any consequential or incidental damages arising from such interpretation.

2. It is to be presumed that the tests performed pertain to the specimen/sample attributed to the Customer's name or identification. It is presumed that the verification particulars have been cleared out by the customer or his/her representation at the point of generation of said specimen / sample. It is hereby clarified that the reports furnished are restricted solely to the given specimen only.

3. It is to be noted that variations in results may occur between different laboratories and over time, even for the same parameter for the same Customer. The assays are performed and conducted in accordance with standard procedures, and the reported outcomes are contingent on the specific individual assay methods and equipment(s) used, as well as the quality of the received specimen.

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