

Toxigenic *C. difficile* DNA; stool

A stool specimen or an isolated sample of *C. difficile* is tested for all known toxigenic strains using an FDA-cleared, molecular diagnostic DNA assay. This test is available as a stand-alone test, or included automatically at no additional charge any time *C. difficile* is cultured at any level in our other *Clostridium* cultures.

Turnaround Time

2 to 4 days

Analytes Tested

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| Analyte | CPT | ABN Required |
|--|-------|--------------|
| Toxigenic <i>C. Difficile</i> DNA; stool | 87493 | No |

This test is useful for

- Antibiotic-Associated Diarrhea
- Autism Spectrum Disorders

Detailed Information

For this assessment, a stool specimen or an isolated sample of *C. difficile* is tested for all known toxigenic strains using an FDA-cleared, molecular diagnostic DNA assay. This test is available as a stand-alone, or included automatically at no additional charge any time *C. difficile* is cultured at any level in our other *Clostridium* cultures.

Clostridia generally are resistant to antibiotics and treatment of an overgrowth of *C. difficile*, especially in asymptomatic carriers and infants under age two, is usually not warranted. Additionally, since plasmids have a potential role in transferring various capacities, including antibiotic resistance, from one organism to another, the use of antibiotics in the treatment of *clostridia* overgrowth should be considered carefully.