

## INFECTIOUS GASTROENTERITIS TESTING GUIDE

Clinical History	Routine Faecal Culture	Giardia & Cryptosporidium antigen	Full Extended Parasite examination (2 samples)	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> toxin testing	Viral testing for gastro	Other points <i>Note relevant details on 'clinical details' to help the lab guide the testing</i>
Acute diarrhoea only	No testing					Fluid electrolyte replacement only, dependent on age and other factors
Bloody diarrhoea or febrile	✓					One sample – 85% sensitive when bacterial cause
Chronic diarrhoea	✓	✓	✓			Note if overseas travel and where if one main location
Children ≤ 5 years	✓				*	* Consider rotavirus also especially if outbreak and/or childcare attendance
Post antibiotic &/or hospital &/or LTCF				✓		If positive toxin, do not retest
> 65 years	✓			*		* Consider <i>C difficile</i> also if Abs, debilitation, or has been in healthcare facility
Overseas travel or immigration	✓	✓	✓			
Immunocompromised	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rural or animal exposure	✓	✓				
Child care attendance	✓	✓			*	* Consider viral testing especially if > 1 case
Healthcare worker	✓			✓	✓	Extent of testing guided by patient contact type
Food handler	✓				*	Plus consider viral if > 1 case
Raw seafood	✓				✓	Note details on form, extra bacterial testing will be done e.g. <i>Vibrio spp</i>
Outbreak	✓			*	*	* Consider extra testing dependent on point source (food poisoning), healthcare association ( <i>C. diff</i> ), or institutional (viral)