

LabMed Report

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IN THIS ISSUE: Helicobacter pylori testing

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Serologic evaluation for *Helicobacter pylori* is no longer available at Munson.

Non-invasive tests for diagnosis of *Helicobacter pylori* include the Stool Antigen test (SAT) and the Urea Breath Test (UBT). Both tests are performed at Mayo. Neither test requires a medically necessary diagnosis by Medicare.

The stool test is less costly and less complex to collect and requires a random stool sample in a plain container (e.g. sterile urine cup). Stability is 48 hours refrigerated or 60 days frozen. Collection of the breath test is available at outpatient labs located at our hospitals throughout the Munson Healthcare system.

It is important that patient preparation requirements are followed prior to testing—please refer to the “Specimen” tab at the Mayo website for each test (links below). Review of the “Cautions” listed under the “Clinical and Interpretive” tab can be helpful for results interpretation. We have also included links to an informative video and the diagnostic algorithm recommended by Mayo Medical Laboratories.

Link to the Fecal Antigen test:

<http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com/test-catalog/Overview/81806>

Link to the Urea Breath test:

<http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com/test-catalog/Overview/81590>

Mayo Hot Topics Video:

<http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com/articles/hot-topic/2016/02-01-h-pylori/index.html>

Diagnostic Algorithm for *H. pylori*:

http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com/it-mmfiles/Helicobacter_pylori_Diagnostic_Algorithm.pdf