MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION FOR PINWORM

PURPOSE

Enterobiasis is best diagnosed by microscopic examination of specimens taken from the perianal region to identify Enterobius Vermicularis eggs or adult female worms if present.

SCOPE

The procedure is performed in the Hospital and Ambulatory settings by Medical Doctors and Nurse Practitioners who have been trained and maintain annual competency in this procedure.

PERSONNEL

- Licensed Medical Doctors
- Licensed Advanced. Health Practitioners

REAGENTS, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

SWUBE ® Paddle Method

- SWUBE ® Paddle (TM of Becton-Dickinson and Co.)
- Clean sterile glass slides
- Microscope with low power objective
SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

- Specimens are labeled with two forms of patient identification
- Specimen must be collected at night or first thing in the morning before a bowel movement or bath.
- Female pinworms deposit eggs sporadically so specimens must be collected on at least four consecutive days to rule out a false negative result.

QUALITY CONTROL
N/A

PROCEDURE

**SWUBE ® Paddle Method**

1. Hold paddle by the cap and remove from tube.
2. Press sticky surface to the right and left perianal folds.
3. Replace the paddle in the tube until microscopic examination.
4. Place the paddle on a slide.
5. Using a microscope, examine the entire paddle for eggs or female adults under the low power objective.

RESULTS AND REPORTING

Pinworm eggs are elongate and flattened on one side, with a thick colorless shell. The adult female pinworms may also be seen on the tape preparation. They are characterized by a long, pointed tail.

- Report as “Positive” – Enterobius Vermicularis ova or adults present.
- Report as “Negative” – No Enterobius Vermicularis ova or adults present
- Record the results in the patient’s Medical record chart.
- Include the date/time and name of person performing the test.

ALTERNATIVE TEST METHODS

Test is performed in the Clinical Laboratory.

RECORDS MAINTENANCE

- Individual patient results are kept in their medical record charts indefinitely.

REFERENCES


**Signature Manifest**

**Document Number:** SOP-0033

**Title:** PPM Pinworm Procedure

All dates and times are in Pacific Standard Time.

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**PPM for approval-Pinworm**

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### Med Dir Apprvl

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### Notify Sr Sup

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