C. difficile culture; stool

RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Within</th>
<th>Outside</th>
<th>Reference Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>NG / No Growth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. difficile culture

INFORMATION

Clostridium difficile (C. difficile) is a gram-positive anaerobic bacterium recognized as a major cause of antibiotic associated diarrhea and colitis. Infection is not uncommon in individuals who have taken broad spectrum antibiotics that eliminate beneficial/competing bacteria. Risk for infection is increased in individuals housed in places where C. difficile is prevalent (e.g. hospitals, chronic care facilities). C. difficile is ubiquitous in nature and has been isolated from soil, sand, animal feces, and water. Approximately half of all healthy neonates carry C. difficile asymptomatically during their first year of life; the carrier rate decreases to about 3% in asymptomatic adults. C. difficile associated disease is not overtly expressed unless the bacteria actively produce toxins A and B. If the culture is positive for C. difficile, a molecular diagnostic assay utilizing DNA amplification technology which can detect all known strains of toxigenic C. difficile will be performed at no additional cost to determine toxigenicity.

SPECIMEN DATA

Comments:

Date Collected: 9/25/2011
Date Received: 9/28/2011
Date Completed: 10/6/2011