

Bronson LabWire

Laboratory News and Analysis for Clinicians January 2024

New Test

Fecal Calprotectin Testing

Effective 1/17/24

Bronson Chemistry will be bringing Fecal Calprotectin (FCAL) testing in-house.

The test is intended to aid in the diagnosis of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), specifically Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC) and aids in the differentiation of IBD from irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) in conjunction with other laboratory and clinical findings.

Currently testing is provided by Mayo Medical Laboratories. The Bronson methodology is particle enhanced turbidimetric immunoassay (PETIA). The previous method from Mayo was Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA). The reference ranges differ, but the interpretations are equivalent as described in the table below:

Bronson Result	Mayo Result	Interpretation
<80 ug/g	<50 ug/g	Normal - Fecal calprotectin concentrations below 80 ug/g are not suggestive of an active inflammatory process within the gastrointestinal system. For patients experiencing gastrointestinal symptoms, consider further evaluation for functional gastrointestinal disorders.
80-160 ug/g	50-120 ug/g	Borderline - Fecal Calprotectin concentrations between 80 and 160 ug/g are borderline and may represent a mild inflammatory process, such as in treated inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or associated with nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug or aspirin usage. For patients with clinical symptoms suggestive of IBD, retesting in 4 to 6 weeks may be indicated.
>160 ug/g	>120 ug/g	Elevated - Fecal calprotectin concentrations >160 ug/g are suggestive of an active inflammatory process within the gastrointestinal system. Additional diagnostic testing to determine the etiology of the inflammation is suggested.

Ordering/Specimen Information:

Test Name	Fecal Calprotectin (FCAL)
Specimen	Unpreserved Stool
Transport Conditions	Refrigerated (preferred)
Stability	6 days refrigerated or frozen 3 days ambient
Performance	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Expected Turn Around	1-3 days
Test Order Code	FCAL (LAB 3277)

References:

- Calprotectin, Feces. Mayo Medical Laboratories Lab Test Catalog. **CALPR - Overview: Calprotectin, Feces (mayocliniclabs.com)**.
- FCAL method sheet. **method-sheet-cobas (roche.com)**. Last updated 01/2023.