



Date issued: January 25, 2018

## INVESTIGATION FOR MALARIA AND OTHER BLOOD PARASITES

**Date Effective: Immediately**

**Test: Investigation for Malaria and other blood parasites, peripheral blood sample**

### Change in New Test Procedure:

1. All requests must include travel history and/or country of origin, treatment history (antimalarial treatment or prophylaxis). Test completion will be delayed if the information is not provided with the request, as laboratory personnel will have to contact the attending physician to obtain it. This can be quite difficult and time consuming, particularly during evening/night hours and through shift changes.
2. On selected atypical malaria cases, complementary tests may be performed (Binex test). This will require a separate ancillary report due to accreditation requirements. However, the standard malaria report will remain as the comprehensive assessment with a diagnostic comment.

### Background Information:

Trends in global travel and immigration, as well as evolution of parasite and treatment pose increasing challenges in parasite detection and speciation. Information regarding geographic and drug exposure is necessary and often critical to improve diagnostic accuracy. Accurate parasite speciation allows for more tailored and safer treatment.

**Patient Impact:** Diagnostic, treatment and outcome improvement

**System Improvements:** Expedite and improve diagnosis

**For complete listing of Clinical Practice Changes, click on:**  
[Clinical Practice Changes](#)

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