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DRG Laboratory provides the latest cutting edge, state-of-the-art [PCR](#) based diagnostic testing available to medical practitioners. Our testing is so sensitive and exquisitely specific that it can detect a single copy of genomic [DNA](#). We test for over two dozen bacteria, parasites, fungi, and health risk markers. When you order this life altering test you will receive a complete, easy to use collection kit that you return, postage-paid, with your specimen. We process your specimen as soon as it is received in our state-of-the-art facility and provide your test results directly to your physician usually within a few business days.

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## Latest News



### Antibiotic Resistance Gene Testing

by DRG Staff At DRG Laboratory, we take [antibiotic resistance](#) seriously. We test for antibiotic drug resistance gene characteristics to the following: [View sample reports, video and ...](#)

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### ANNOUNCEMENT: DRG Laboratory Releases New Report Format

by DRG Laboratory Staff DRG Laboratory is happy to announce our new report format. It has a new header with better readability. There is a new column ...

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**Calprotectin is an excellent way to determine IBD in pediatric patients**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore New work has confirmed [calprotectin](#) (which is tested for here at DRG Laboratory) in the diagnosis of inflammatory bowel disease ...

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**New Human Organ Has Been Classified - Mesentery**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore A New Year and a new organ! Hello and Happy New Year to everyone! Most of the time when I post ...

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**Some Potential Good News (or Lack of Bad News) for PPI Users**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore If you have been following any of my recent entries to this blog, you may know that proton pump ...

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<b>Iron absorption</b>	
<b>Factors favouring absorption</b>	<b>Factors reducing absorption</b>
Iron	Inorganic iron
Iron (Fe <sup>2+</sup> )	Ferric form (Fe <sup>3+</sup> )
3, vit. C	<b>Alkalis</b> – antacids, pancreatic secretions
NS agents (sugars, acids)	Protein-binding agents – phytates, phosphates
Diets	Iron excess
Iron deficiency	Decreased erythropoiesis
Iron deficiency anemia	Infections
Iron deficiency anemia	Toxins
Iron deficiency anemia	

### **Acid Suppression Therapy and Iron Deficiency**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore Many patients who suffer with gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) take medication to help suppress the production of acid in their ...

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### **OpenBiome Now Allows Storing Your Stool in Case of C. difficile Infection**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore Just as many new families are being given the option to 'bank' their new baby's cord blood for potential later ...

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### **Action without antibiotic information risks patient health**

NO Antibiotic has a 100% success rate, NONE. Some protocols like PrevPac are less than 70% effective so how do you decide what drug(s) ...

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### **Do Proton Pump Inhibitors Increase Risk for Community-Acquired Pneumonia?**

by Bernadette M. Mandes Wildemore Many patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease are treated with medications such as proton pump inhibitors (PPI) to help with the ...

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## PCR: Polymerase chain reaction - it's DNA

“PCR is the best developed and most widely used nucleic acid amplification strategy. These techniques have sensitivity unparalleled in laboratory medicine; they have created new opportunities for the clinical laboratory to have an effect on patient care and have become the new “gold standards” for laboratory diagnosis of several infectious diseases.”

*Manual of Clinical Microbiology*, 8th Edition, Vol. 1, page 235, 2003.

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## DNA doesn't lie...



The clinical microbiology laboratory is transitioning into the molecular age. From pathogens and antibiotic resistance identification to screening tests, molecular diagnostics are playing an increasingly important role in diagnosing infections and improving patient outcomes. Knowledge of the presence of a drug resistance gene is significant when considering a patient's treatment for a pathogenic infection.

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## Tomorrow's Medicine Today

Many infectious agents missed by routine cultures, serological assays and Southern blot

hybridizations can be detected by PCR. Therefore, PCR-based tests are best suited for the



clinical and epidemiological investigation of pathogenic bacteria and viruses. The limitations of culturing are: low sensitivities, inability to detect non-cultivable bacteria, time-

consuming aspects and low levels of reproducibility.



Microscopy for parasites requires up to 3 samples and a high number of cells, 1000 to 5000 per gram for diagnosis. Even with the advent of antigen detection systems, there has long been uncertainty in diagnosis when no bacteria or parasites are found. And virus detection is not routinely available by



conventional labs.

In contrast, PCR based assays require only 1 to 5 cells per gram of stool, are not limited by growth requirements, are very reproducible and have nearly 100% sensitivity and specificity. Making PCR the most sensitive method available.

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