



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**
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Test Order

Shiga Toxin Producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) Shiga Toxin Gene PCR

Synonym(s)	STEC PCR, <i>stx1/stx2</i> gene PCR, Shiga Toxin Gene PCR
Methodology	Real Time Shiga Toxin Gene PCR
Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing	Pure isolates, previously identified as <i>Escherichia coli</i> ; GN or Mac broth; Stool in PARA-PAK C&S.
Transport / Collection Medium	Pure isolates: transport on nutrient agar slant, packaged and sealed according to regulations. PARA-PAK C&S: mix well after collection. Refrigerate, and deliver to the laboratory within 3 days of collection. GM/Mac broths: packaged and sealed according to regulations.
Storage and Preservation of Specimen	Refrigerate until transported to the laboratory. Transport at room temperature.
Minimum Volume Required	PARA-PAK C&S: Fill to line (do NOT overfill).
Additional Collection Instructions	N/A
Additional Required Information	N/A
Send Out?	No
Turnaround Time	10 business days (M-F)
Testing Restrictions	
Requisition Form(s)	http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1036
Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers	Delays in GN/Mac broth submissions to the laboratory can lead to reduced success in STEC isolation.

This PCR assay was developed and its performance characteristics were determined by the San Francisco Public Health Laboratory. It has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The FDA has determined that such approval is not necessary and results should not be regarded as investigational or for research.

Updated 2/15/2017