

## FilmArray Gastrointestinal Panel (FAGIP) FAQ

### 1. What is FilmArray Gastrointestinal Panel (FAGIP)?

FilmArray Gastrointestinal Panel is used to detect the presence of multiple viruses, bacteria, and parasites in stool samples for infective gastrointestinal conditions.

### 2. How is FAGIP test done?

Stool sample needs to be collected for testing.

### 3. Is FAGIP test necessary for all gastrointestinal conditions?

For most infective gastrointestinal conditions supportive/symptomatic therapy would be the main treatment (e.g. hydration, rest, fever medications).

As such, FAGIP testing is rarely necessary, as it will not usually change the management of patients.

### 4. How do doctors diagnose infective gastrointestinal conditions?

History taking, clinical examination, basic blood tests, and stool culture is usually sufficient to diagnose the condition. Supportive therapy (e.g. hydration, rest, fever medications) is still the mainstay treatment.

### 5. Why is FAGIP generally not covered by insurance?

In general, most patients suffering from gastroenteritis/colitis will recover with supportive/symptomatic treatment. Clinical practice guidelines rarely indicate the need for antibiotics. Hence, only those patients that do not respond to supportive treatment will be require this additional test.

### 6. When will FAGIP be covered?

Coverage of FAGIP can be considered when patient's condition met the following criteria:

- The patient is not responding to initial treatment and require FAGIP to guide management.
- The patient is in severe condition showing signs of severe dehydration and/or warded in ICU.
- The patient is suffering from prolonged illness and not responding to supportive/conservative treatment.
- The patient is suspected or confirmed to be immunocompromised (e.g. haematopoietic cancer, sepsis, illnesses with ongoing regular steroid treatment, radiotherapy or chemotherapy) for ruling out atypical infection.