Norovirus is an RNA virus now thought to be one of the most common causes of outbreaks of nonbacterial gastroenteritis in the world. It is spread by fecal-oral routes or in food with a low infectious dose. There are five genogroups: GI, GII, GIII, GIV, GV. Pathogenesis relates to a person's blood type as the virus interacts with blood group antigens. Infection in healthy individuals typically lasts for 1-4 days with symptoms including diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps, headache, fever, chills, and myalgia, but can be asymptomatic. In immunocompromised patients, norovirus infection can be more serious; immunosuppressive drugs can leave patients vulnerable to nosocomial infection and chronic disease. For all cases, treatment consists of supportive therapy, as there is no known cure for the disease. There is also no vaccine for norovirus since its capsid evolves over time, creating new strains not recognized by persons who were previously infected. Real-time RT-PCR provides a rapid and sensitive method to determine the presence of target-specific amplifiable nucleic acids in all samples intended for viral PCR\textsuperscript{1-4}. This assay detects groups GI and GII. For more information on testing methodology, call the lab at 513-636-9820.

**Testing Schedule:**
Testing for Norovirus is performed Mon-Fri on first shift. For testing outside of this schedule, call the lab at 513-636-9820. **TAT:** 1-3 days

**CPT Codes:**
87798

**Contact Information:**
Cincinnati Children's Division of Pathology Molecular Pathology (PCR) Laboratory Phone: 513-636-9820 Fax: 513-803-5407 Email: pathology@cchmc.org Website: cincinnatichildrens.org/pathology

For pricing or billing questions, call 513-803-8571.

**Shipping Address:**
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Lab Processing, B4.127 Attn: Molecular Pathology (PCR) 3333 Burnet Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45229

**References:**

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**References:**

**Reporting Units:**
Positive/Negative

**Unacceptable Specimens:**
- Whole blood
- Swabs in gel or charcoal media

**Shipping Conditions:**
- Ambient if sent within 24 hours
- On wet ice if sent >24 hours after collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Type</th>
<th>Volume Needed</th>
<th>Collection Container</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stool</td>
<td>1mL or 0.3g</td>
<td>Sterile Container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rectal Swab*</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Lavender Top (EDTA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tissue (originating from the gastrointestinal tract)**</td>
<td>0.3g</td>
<td>Sterile Container</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Red or green top culturette swabs preferred; viral transport media acceptable.
** Wrap tissue in gauze wetted slightly with sterile saline to keep moist during transport.

Clinical Lab Index:
Noro: https://www.testmenu.com/cincinnatichildrens/Tests/662815